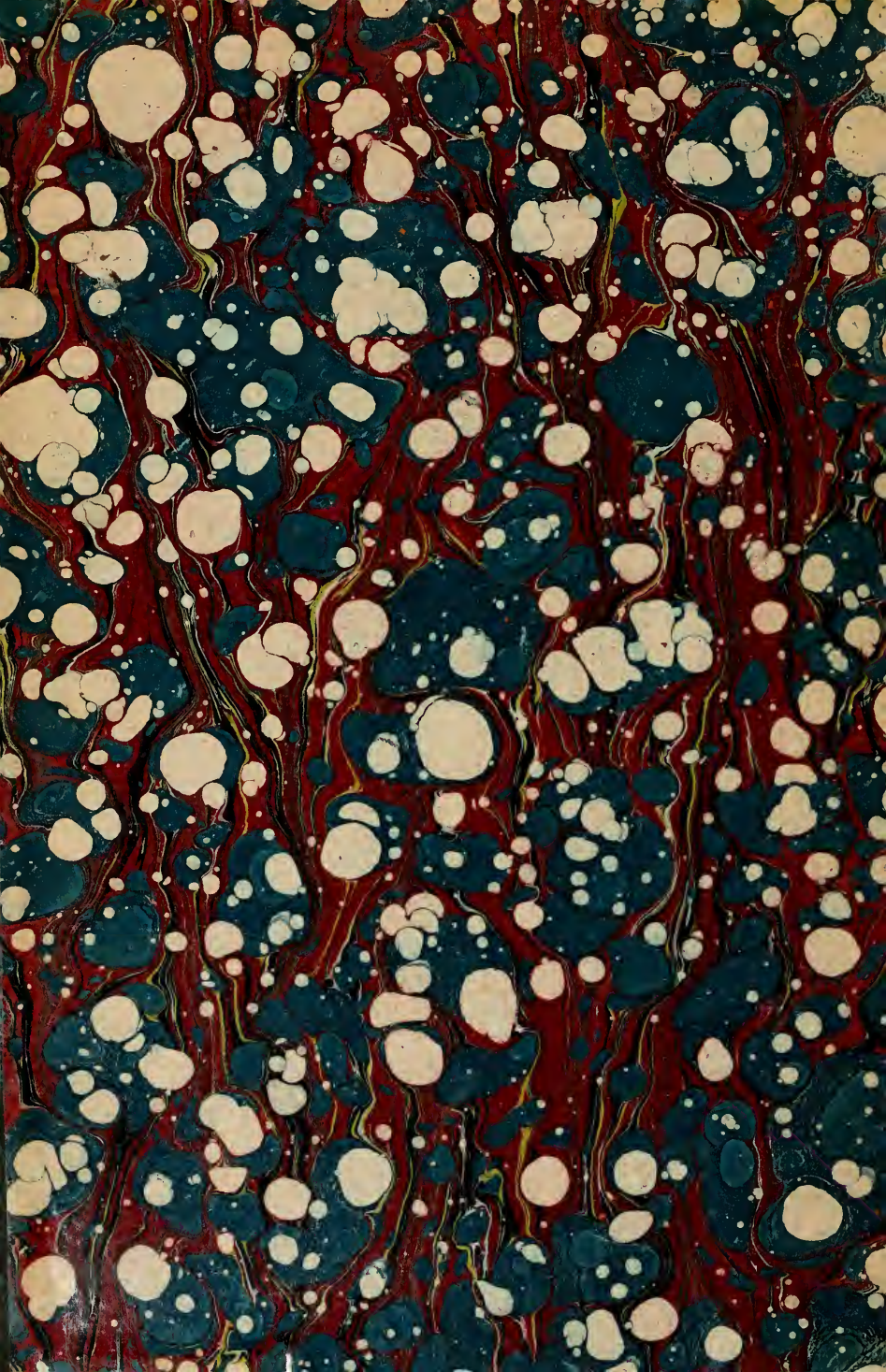


Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2008 with funding from
Microsoft Corporation

http://www.archive.org/details/burnschroniclecl1618kilmuoft

BURNS'S PORTRAIT

ADMIRERS and lovers of ROBERT BURNS will be interested to learn that there has at last been placed on the market a portrait of the greatest People's-Poet of the world, in every respect remarkable as a work of art, namely, a facsimile reproduction in colour, by the method perfected by Mr. Mortimer Menpes, of

ALEXANDER NASMYTH'S FAMOUS PORTRAIT OF ROBERT BURNS.

This portrait was painted in 1787, when Burns was twenty-eight, to the commission of William Creech, the publisher of the Edinburgh edition of the Poet's works, which was dedicated to the Caledonian Hunt. Creech had nevertheless a keen eye to business, and it must be counted to him almost for genius that he had the wit to entrust to a painter whose reputation had yet to be won the portrait of the man who was then the most conspicuous figure in Edinburgh society. But whether a happy chance or not, the experiment fulfilled the highest expectations, for the artist rose to the occasion, on the whole, triumphantly. Nasmyth made two replicas of the original, one for George Thomson (whose perseverance drew so many songs from Burns), now in the National Portrait Gallery in London, and the other for the Misses Cathcart of Auchendrane in Ayrshire, now in the possession of the Earl of Rosebery. It is from the portrait in London that this reproduction has been made.

The extraordinary skill and pains bestowed by Mr. Mortimer Menpes, coupled with the mellowing influence of time, have actually resulted in an improvement upon Nasmyth's own work. For the first time in its history, the picture has been properly placed upon the canvas. Nasmyth introduced too much sky, with the consequence that the bust of the sitter was unintentionally dwarfed against the spaciousness of the background and distance. Sir Walter Scott acutely detected this blemish. "His features," he writes, "are represented in Mr. Nasmyth's picture; but to me it conveys the idea that they are diminished, as if seen in perspective." By the simple and extremely happy expedients of, so to say, cutting off the upper portion of the sky and enlarging the bust from the cabinet size adopted by Nasmyth to the more usual three-quarters scale, the Facsimile Reproduction affords the first satisfying portrait of Burns ever published. Even the technical details, due to the flight of years, have added to the absolute veracity of the likeness, and supply a speaking tribute to the success which the reproducer has achieved. For though brush marks and the very cracks in the painter's varnish are not, of course, in themselves excellences, they are the hall-mark of the fidelity obtained in this truly marvellous reproduction of Alexander Nasmyth's beautiful work.

PRICES		SIZES	
ON BRONZE MOUNT -	**10**/= NET	Outside Measurement	24 × 20 inches
IN DUCAT GOLD FRAME	**20**/= NET	Inside Measurement -	16½ × 13½ inches

THE PICTURE WILL BE SENT CARRIAGE PAID TO ANY ADDRESS IN GREAT BRITAIN

PUBLISHED BY ADAM AND CHARLES BLACK - SOHO SQUARE - LONDON - W.

A FACSIMILE REPRODUCTION OF NASMYTH'S FAMOUS PORTRAIT OF

ROBERT BURNS

FRAMED **20/=** NET

CARRIAGE PAID TO ANY ADDRESS IN GREAT BRITAIN

PRICES		SIZES	
ON BRONZE MOUNT -	**10/=** NET	Outside Measurement -	24 × 20 inches
IN DUCAT GOLD FRAME	**20/=** NET	Inside Measurement -	16½ × 13½ inches

PUBLISHED BY ADAM AND CHARLES BLACK - SOHO SQUARE - LONDON - W.

LE
B

ANNUAL

BURNS CHRONICLE & CLUB DIRECTORY

INSTITUTED 4TH SEPTEMBER 1891

Edited by D. McNAUGHT, Kilmaurs

Nº XVI.

JANUARY, 1907.

PRICE:

ONE SHILLING & SIXPENCE.

346564
11 2 38

PUBLISHED BY THE
BURNS FEDERATION,
KILMARNOCK.

PRINTED BY
J.M.MUNRO, Limited,
82, MITCHELL ST, GLASGOW

(Rights reserved)

SPARKLING ALE

(FREE FROM SEDIMENT).

MELVIN'S OATMEAL STOUT.

Melvin's

ESTABLISHED 1575.

ALES = =

AND . . .

STOUTS

IN

Bulk or Bottle.

MELVIN'S PALE ALE.

Boroughloch Brewery, Edinburgh.

Glasgow Office:
88 BATH STREET.
Agent—CAPT. D. SNEDDON.

IN CORKED OR SCREW-STOPPERED BOTTLES.

CONTENTS.

	Page
A Sketch of Scottish Literature from the Earliest Times —*Wm. M'Ilwraith*	1
Lamb and his Literary Friends on Burns—*Wm. Findlay, M.D. ("George Umber")*	17
Burns and the Ethics of his Times—*Alex. S. Brown*	27
Burns Topography (Kilmaurs and Neighbourhood)—*Editor*	33
Preservation of the Auld Brig o' Ayr	42
Burns and Ochiltree—*Thomas Killin*	70
In Memoriam: David Mackay, President of the Burns Federation—*Editor*	94
Ode to Robert Burns, 25th January, 1907—*John Drake*	104
Club Notes	105
Lord Rosebery's Edinburgh Appeal	116
Lord Rosebery's Glasgow Appeal	142
Prize Song Competition	118
Notes and Queries	130
Annual Meeting of Federation	147
Club Directory	154

PREFACE.

THE chronicling of the current events of the past year has so circumscribed the space at our disposal that several valuable articles have again been held over.

We beg to renew our thanks to those who have assisted us in the editorial work, and hope that their friendly interest in the serial will be continued. The success hitherto has realised the most sanguine anticipations.

D. M'NAUGHT.

BENRIG, KILMAURS,
20th December, 1906.

A SKETCH OF SCOTTISH LITERATURE FROM THE EARLIEST TIMES.

CHAPTER IV.

EIGHTEENTH CENTURY.

IN Adam Ferguson, 1723-1816, we have a writer of much clearness and force, with a mind less trammelled with eccentricities than that of Lord Monboddo, though they had something in common. Like Lord Monboddo, he was a great admirer of ancient wisdom, but unlike his predecessor in the sense that his attitude was towards the rising rather than the setting sun. If philosophy by the influence of such an one as Ferguson acquired little or no originality, it certainly acquired breadth and transparency. Bound less by mere technicalities that many of his predecessors and contemporaries, his favourite method was the study of mankind in groups, and tracing the gradual progress of society from this standpoint; thus he had much of the modern spirit we find in the philosophy of Herbert Spencer, especially on its sociological side. Adam Ferguson was the son of the parish minister of Logierait, in Perthshire, and was born in 1723. After graduating at St. Andrews, he came to Edinburgh to study with the view of entering the Church, and amongst his friends and fellow-pupils at Edinburgh were Robertson, Hume, Blair, Alexander, Carlyle, and others whose names are identified with the literature of the century in one way or other. On account of his knowledge of Gaelic he was selected as chaplain of the famous Black Watch, though he had only completed two sessions of the divinity course. He accepted the offer, and, accompanying this regiment to the Continent, he was present at the battle of Fontenoy, and was with difficulty prevented from rushing into

action at the peril of his life, sword in hand. When he retired from the regiment of the Black Watch in 1754, he also severed his connection with the Church, the doctrines of which never had so much fascination for him as the ethical doctrines of the Stoics, which he had devoutly studied from his youth up. In 1757, three years after he resigned the Church, he was appointed keeper of the Advocates' Library in Edinburgh, an office which was previously held by David Hume: and a year later he accepted a tutorship in the family of Lord Bute. In 1759 he was appointed Professor in the Edinburgh University—first of Natural Philosophy and subsequently of Moral Philosophy. To the former branch he had previously given little attention, but he soon showed himself equal to the task, and was highly complimented by Hume for having in three months mastered a subject sufficiently to teach it which he had only casually studied when a youth at college. The latter of the two branches, however, was congenial to his mind, inasmuch as he had already devoted much attention to the teaching of the Stoic philosophers, and that of other ethical systems in the ancient world. The knowledge he had thus acquired was afterwards utilised in a substantial manner by the publication, in 1766, of his essay on the *History of Civil Society*. His friend Hume had a poor opinion of this work, and thought it unworthy of the author's talents, predicting that its popularity would be ephemeral, but in this instance Hume's prediction was erroneous. The work rapidly acquired a reputation on the Continent as well as in Great Britain, and it passed through half-a-dozen editions before the end of the century. This was a greater triumph than is claimed for Hume's *Treatise*, which on his own testimony fell dead-born from the press, though a far more original work. A weaker spirit might have felt a pang of jealousy, but Hume was magnanimous enough to rejoice at the success of his friend's work. In 1769 Ferguson published *Institutes of Moral Philosophy*, which also far exceeded the most sanguine expectations of his friends, and was used in several foreign Universities as a students' text-book. While holding the office of Professor in the Univer-

sity of Edinburgh he asked leave of absence to travel with the young Earl of Chesterfield in 1774, but the request was refused by the Town Council. In spite of the verdict of the Council he absented himself, leaving the conduct of his class in the University in the hands of the Professor of Logic, which was regarded by many as an indefensible action. When he returned to Edinburgh, after a year's absence, he found himself deprived of his office. Determined to test the legality of his own action, he fought and defeated the Council, and by an order of the Court of Session was reinstated. In 1778 he acted as secretary to the Commission sent to America by Lord North for the purpose of settling the disputed points which had led to the war between Great Britain and the North American Colonies. After his return he published, in 1783, his history of the *Progress and Termination of the Roman Republic;* and two years afterwards the state of his health compelled him to resign his Professorship, in which he was succeeded by Dugald Stewart, who had previously been his deputy. In 1793 Ferguson went on a journey to Italy, which was of a most pleasant and beneficial nature, his literary reputation, which was already well known in that country, at once ensuring him a kindly reception. Ferguson's first published work, *Essay on the History of Civil Society*, was for the most part inspired by Montesquieu's "Esprit Des Lois," and is an attempt to group nations according to their special characteristics, and thus determine their progress or decline. Montesquieu, feeling the necessity to sound the depths of history and discover the great secret of civilisation, concludes that "men are governed by many things—climate, religion, law, the maxims of government, the example of past things, customs, manners—and from the union of such influences a general spirit is produced." These elements, which enter into the composition of every human society, and the spirit which animates that society, are connected and correlative; it is not a fortuitous concourse of atoms, but a living organism. "Laws are the nerves of this social body, and must be suited to the nature and functions of the organs which they animate." Ferguson, in his *History of Civil Society*, seeks to show that man has been

endowed with social instincts from the beginning, and, though feeble and rudimentary at first, functioning in a narrow sphere, yet he is destined to pass through the savage state in his gradual ascent to a higher stage of civilisation, the social instinct being the propelling factor. The author's *Principles of Moral and Political Science* embodies the views to be found in a series of lectures delivered in Edinburgh College in 1792, systematically arranged in two parts. In treating man as a subject of history, the method Ferguson adopts throughout the first part is a careful elaboration of man's nature, and is little more than an expression of the principles of his *Civil Society*. The second part of the work is a definition of what constitutes right in personal conduct, in law, and in political institutions. In his progressive conception of man, and his belief in a constructive principle in nature, Ferguson was opposed to the theory of Thomas Hobbs, who held that the state of nature was a continual war and insecurity. Besides the more speculative works of the author already mentioned, he published, in 1776, *A Reply to Dr Price on Civil and Religious Liberty*. His *History of the Roman Republic*, also mentioned above, was translated into French and German, and was long regarded as the standard authority on the subject. It was one of the books Carlyle recommended in his famous rectorial address at Edinburgh in 1866. Now it is superseded by Long's *History of the Decline of the Roman Republic*, which was completed in 1874. Although the work of Long is perhaps a more reliable and scholarly production, it is by no means so graceful and pleasant reading as the older work. Ferguson usually wrote in a clear and limpid style, and he was a genial and fascinating personality apart from his books. No sketch of the literature of Scotland in the eighteenth century would be complete which did not give him a place in its archives. Though this is so, it cannot be claimed that he contributed to Scottish philosophy much of an original character. His knowledge of the old Greek thinkers enabled him to take a survey of the entire field of speculative philosophy, and at the same time bring his own views into harmony with the current of modern thought. In connection

with the Scottish School, it might further be claimed that he helped to emancipate philosophy from the labyrinth of metaphysics in which some of his predecessors had involved it, by a closer consideration of its historic relations and natural environment. Such considerations cannot be ignored in speculations regarding man's mental and material conditions. It was the opinion of Sir Walter Scott that Ferguson was the most striking example of a modern Stoic philosopher he could possibly conceive of. When Scott was a boy, it was in Ferguson's house he met the poet Burns, an incident which has been made memorable by Scott himself.

Dugald Stewart, 1753-1828.

In connection with the Common-sense theory, Reid's most able advocate and intelligent disciple was Dugald Stewart. This well-known disciple adopted the methods of his master with a force and fervour which might be mistaken by the superficial reader for originality. By his essays and treatises he greatly elucidated Reid's doctrines, and popularised Scottish philosophy to an extent which had not been the case hitherto. Dugald Stewart was born in Edinburgh, November 22nd, 1753, in the College buildings, his father being Professor of Mathematics in the University. His subsequent course at the University extended from 1765 to 1769, and when little more than a youth he was appointed his father's assistant and successor, owing to the declining health of the latter. He is said to have discharged the duties of his office with ability and satisfaction, and before he had completed his twenty-second year he was appointed joint-Professor, in addition to which he conducted a class of Moral Philosophy for Ferguson during his absence on a political mission. Rapidly gaining reputation as a teacher, he was appointed to the chair of Moral Philosophy on the resignation of Ferguson in 1785. In this position it may be said that he found his true sphere, which he occupied for twenty-five years with credit to himself and to the edification and advantage of his pupils. During this period he not only acquired a great reputation in Scotland as a teacher, but he attracted pupils from England, the Continent of Europe, and America; and, in the words of Sir James Mackintosh, "he lived to see his disciples

distinguished amongst the lights and ornaments of the Council and the State." "All the years I remained about Edinburgh," said James Mill, "I used, as often as I could, to steal into Mr Stewart's class to hear a lecture, which was always a high treat. I have heard Pitt and Fox deliver some of their admired speeches, but I never heard anything nearly so eloquent as some of the lectures of Professor Stewart. The taste for the studies which have formed my favourite pursuits, and which will be so to the end of my life, I owe to him." Dr John Thomson, too, maintained that the two things which had most impressed him were the acting of Mrs Siddons and the oratory of Dugald Stewart. From the numerous testimonials we have of Dugald Stewart's ability and charm of eloquence we can readily understand why he attracted such an array of distinguished pupils. Amongst the notable men who were taught by him were Lord Jeffrey and Cockburn, Francis Horner, Sir Walter Scott, Lord Brougham, Sir James Mackintosh, the future Marquis of Lansdowne, Lord Palmerston, Earl Russell, Sidney Smith, and Archibald Alison. The Edinburgh University, through the fame of Dugald Stewart as a Professor, and also as a philosophical Liberal, attracted many of the leaders of the English Whig party, which was rapidly growing into strength and importance. In his political views, however Stewart was in advance of the Whigs of his own day, and, indeed, had much in common with the political principles of the Philosophical Radical School, to which Jeremy Bentham, James Mill, Horne Tooke, Charles Pelham, Villiers, and other distinguished men belonged. Not only did he sympathise with the French Revolution, but with the Americans in their struggle against Great Britain for their independence, which was finally acknowledged in 1782. Such an attitude was destined to provoke irritation amongst those who took less extreme views on the political questions which were engaging the attention of his contemporaries. Owing to failing health, Stewart withdrew from the active duties of the Professor's chair in 1810, and was assisted by Dr Thomas Brown, who was appointed joint-Professor. After his retirement, he lived the greater part of his time at Kinneil

House, about twenty miles from Edinburgh, where he devoted his time to the completion of his matured literary plans. Previous to this he had published the first volume of his *Elements of the Philosophy of the Human Mind*, which made its appearance in 1792. The second and third volumes of the *Elements* were long delayed, appearing in 1814 and 1827 respectively. In 1793 he had issued *Outlines of Moral Philosophy* as a synopsis of his entire lectures; and a volume of *Philosophical Essays* was published in 1810. His *Dissertation on the Progress of Metaphysical, Ethical, and Political Philosophy* for the *Encyclopædia Britannica* was issued in two parts, the first appearing in 1821. The *Philosophy of the Active and Moral Powers* was not published till a few weeks before his death in 1828. In addition to the works given above, he was the author of *Lives of Adam Smith, Thomas Reid, and William Robertson*, including lectures on *Political Economy* taken from his original manuscripts, supplemented by the notes of his students. Throughout his entire works Stewart's sympathies were psychological, and he aimed at formulating a tangible basis upon which to build his superstructure, but he was hampered by his predilections. All inquiry into subjects beyond the reach of the human faculties he regarded as futile attempts to know that which could not be known. What he strove more particularly to emphasise was a close attention to the philosophy of the human mind, which had for its object the investigation of the facts of consciousness and an attempt to ascertain its laws. By what method did natural philosophy solve its problems and achieve its discoveries but by a patient investigation of the qualities of matter? If mental philosophy was to reveal more clearly its multifarious scope and mysterious functions it could only be made to do so by the adoption of similar methods. Although an ardent disciple of Reid, Stewart frankly acknowledged that the phrases "Common-sense" and "Instinct" were unhappily chosen. Perhaps the most unfortunate feature was that they were not mere phrases with Reid; they were actual principles. He so exaggerated the importance of "Common-sense" that it almost became a fetish in his eyes, or, at any rate,

a kind of magic wand that could transform everything to which it was applied. "I despise philosophy," said Reid, "and renounce its guidance; let my soul dwell with 'Common-sense.'"* Again, what importance could be assigned to the term *Instinct* for the future purposes of philosophy, since men are still in dispute as to where instinct ends and reason begins? In dealing with primary truths, Stewart was more on the alert than his "guide, philosopher, and friend," lest critics should discover breaches in the armour which he was so anxious should have the appearance of impregnability in the eyes of the world As a matter of fact, he employed more skill in contriving and more care in concealing the important reforms and modifications with which he had invested Reid's doctrines than he need have done had it not been for his modesty and the apparent fear that he might be accused of apostasy. Had the clear and precise language Stewart employed in his "laws of human thought and belief" been at first adopted in that school instead of "Common-sense" and "Instinct," it would at least have escaped the reproach of shallowness and vulgarity which was urged against it by less gifted critics, and not so honestly disposed as those whom they attacked. For philosophic purposes Stewart's formula was a great improvement on that of Reid. For the phrase "Common-sense" he substituted "Fundamental Laws of Human Belief," and he revised Reid's classification with a lucidity and learning which was beyond the grasp of the master he so devoutly followed. The principles were not only imperfectly classified in Reid's philosophy, but they were so numerous and complicated that the effect was perplexing rather than elucidating. Let it not be inferred from this, however, that Stewart's classification was beyond the reach of criticism, for it can neither be considered final nor infallible. The most that can be claimed for him is that he thoroughly revised that of his predecessor, applying to the greater part of it a more complete and careful analysis, thus preparing the way for those who might come after him, inspired with a desire to pursue the subject further on more correct and definite lines. The distinction

* Inquiry, Chapter I.

between Reid and Stewart might be thus defined :—Reid had the more original mind of the two, but he had to fight so strenuously for first principles that he had not the time to give to the consideration of a more correct formula. Moreover, in the process he became egotistical, and assumed such an overweening confidence in his own originality that he came to despise ancient authorities in the same field. Stewart, on the other hand, though he might not employ elaborate means to reconcile the philosophical speculations of other times and others nations with those of his own school, at any rate wrote as if they were entitled to respect and consideration and tended to some extent to fortify his own position. Evidence of scholarly attainments seldom fails to inspire confidence whether it be amongst the learned or unlearned, and this was one of the secrets of Dugald Stewart's success. When handling philosophical subjects he was always fluent and clear, and in his references to earlier schools he always spoke and wrote as one having authority. From the possession of those accomplishments, however, it is not to be assumed that his primary principles were characterised by a proportionate depth and penetration, for such was not the case. Indeed, he concentrated so much energy and attention on guarding the outposts which had already been won, on securing the position of his master against attack, and embellishing his propositions with his learning and fancy, that little progress was made in securing the principles of the "Common-sense" doctrine so that it would survive his own generation. In short, Stewart was far too loyal a disciple to formulate anything of an original character, and too firm in the belief that the principal problems of philosophy had been already settled to be capable of anything like an extensive survey. The same might be said of him that has already been said of Ferguson, and indeed others of his predecessors—viz., that he contributed little of an original character to Scottish philosophy except in his method of treatment. Hence the reputation he has acquired is chiefly due to his liberality of thought, his devotion to culture, his intellectual activity, and the tradition of his eloquence, which has been seldom equalled and never surpassed by any

philosophical writer in modern times. No finer or more correct estimate of Stewart's true sphere could be given than that of Carlyle in an article in the *Edinburgh Review*. "The name of Dugald Stewart," says Carlyle, "is a name venerable to all Europe, and to none more dear and venerable than to ourselves. Nevertheless, his writings are not philosophy, but a making ready for one. He does not enter on the field to till it; he only encompasses it with fences, invites cultivators, and drives away intruders. Often [fallen on evil days] he is reduced to long arguments with the passers-by to prove that it is a field, that this highly-prized domain of his is in truth soil and substance, not clouds and shadow. We regard his discussions on the nature of philosophic language, and his unwearied efforts to set forth and guard against its fallacies as worthy of all acknowledgment, as indeed forming the greatest, perhaps the only true, improvement which philosophy has received among us in our age." Scottish philosophy, as a distinct school which entered on its initial stage at the commencement of the eighteenth century, may be said to have terminated with Dugald Stewart by the end of the very century that gave it birth. Broadly speaking, the school did not produce anything like an abiding system of metaphysics, but its inductive method was fruitful in the production of a vast amount of psychological knowledge, which was of great service in the sphere of intellectual, moral, and mental activity. Nor was this influence subsequently confined to Scotland; it was transmitted to America, and also to France where it was manifested in the philosophical doctrine of Cousin Jouffroy and his spiritualistic followers. Thomas Carlyle, writing in 1829, emphasised the fact that, while the physical sciences in Great Britain were engrossing more and more attention, "the philosophy of mind finally died out with its last amiable cultivator, Professor Stewart." There is far more in this statement than appears at first sight, for, although the names of Dr Thomas Brown, Thomas Chalmers, and John Wilson are frequently included amongst the votaries of the Scottish school, it cannot be shown that any of them contributed much of an original or practical character to further the development of

Scottish philosophy on the lines of Reid and the Common-sense theorists.

Nor does Sir William Hamilton come within the precincts of the eighteenth century, but rather belongs to the nineteenth, both in point of time and habit of thought. At all events, he can scarcely be classed amongst the disciples of Reid, and might be omitted altogether from a sketch of the eighteenth century were it not for the purpose of a convenient conclusion to a brief survey of the Scottish School. It might readily be granted, as Professor Seth has pointed out, that Hamilton departed from the Catholic doctrine and tendency of Scottish philosophy previous to his own time. The general tendency of his teaching was to combine the traditional Scottish doctrine with the negative results of a Kantian critique of knowledge. Reid's philosophy of Common-sense, which was in brief an appeal to the unreasoned verdict of ordinary consciousness, was so transformed by Hamilton as really to constitute a reaction to phenomenalism, and the dictum that nothing can be known, that nothing can be affirmed or denied, beyond the fleeting phenomena of consciousness. Between this assumption and the vital principles of the sceptical philosophy there is little difference, except perhaps in the trivialities of terminology, and, therefore, there is much in the claim of Huxley and others that Sir William Hamilton laid the foundation and prepared the way for Agnosticism.

Sir William Hamilton, 1788-1856.

To convey the impression that poetry and philosophy comprised the entire literature of the century, however, would be a palpable error. It was also productive of theological, legal, and medical treatises, but to deal with these on my present plan would swell the sketch to dimensions not originally intended. It is to the eighteenth century, too, that we are indebted for the greatest of all our biographers in James Boswell, whose life of Dr Johnson is still acknowledged to be unrivalled. The very Englishman who tried to disparage Scotland and everything Scottish owes most of his fame to a Scotsman, and, knowing how many great reputations

James Boswell, 1740-1795.

have been sunk in oblivion since Johnson's day, it might form an interesting theme for speculation as to where the fame of Johnson would have stood to-day but for Boswell's famous life. Indeed, Boswell's devotion to Dr Johnson has laid him open to the charge of mean spiritedness and lack of manly independence. No critic has striven more ardently to exhibit Boswell in an objectionable light than has Lord Macaulay; and the unfortunate feature of it is that the impression of Boswell which Macaulay made on the mind of the general public still survives. He not only tries to exhibit Boswell as a bad man, but a man of the meanest and feeblest intellect. "Many of the greatest men that ever lived have written biography," he says. "Boswell was one of the smallest men that ever lived, and he has beaten them all." The admission that Boswell has beaten them all does no injustice to Macaulay's literary judgment, but the insinuations he makes more than once against Boswell's character and genius is rather a poor compliment to Macaulay's taste and conception of genius. Had Macaulay read Boswell's letters to his friend, the Rev. W. J. Temple, he would probably have learned something better of the psychological side of Boswell. Assuming he could have entered upon their study with a mind free from bias, still Macaulay never could penetrate the subtle depths of a complex nature. Early in the attachment, Boswell's father appears to have anticipated that the meanest construction would be put upon his son's devotion to Johnson when he sneered at him for "pinning himself to the tail of an auld dominie wha keepit a schule and ca'd it an academy."

James Boswell was born at Edinburgh, October 18, 1740, and was the eldest son of Lord Auchinleck, a judge in the Court of Session, who had taken his title from an estate in Ayrshire which had been in possession of the Boswell family since the reign of James IV. The companion and immortal biographer of Dr Johnson was educated at the Edinburgh High School and at the Universities of Edinburgh and Glasgow. His University life was not distinguished by deep study or diligent application, but he was famous amongst his fellow-students for that gay and

frivolous disposition which is usually so attractive to youth. Such characteristics, however, did not commend themselves to the stern old judge, who turned that keen and penetrating eye on his son which, by long experience on the bench, had become eminently capable of plumbing the depths of human weakness and folly. To the father young Boswell became a source of irritation and anxiety, especially because he could not restrain him or divert the current of his wayward inclinations. When a youth of eighteen James Boswell was irresistibly carried away by the *cacoethes scribendi* which is so often the prelude to the distinguished man of letters. At this age he began to keep an exact journal, write poems and prologues to Edinburgh plays, and, at twenty-three, a series of affected and clever letters purporting to have passed between himself and a companion of equal age and experience. A year of London life at the age of twenty quite disenchanted him with provincial life, which he came heartily to despise. An uncommon capacity for making friends, falling in love, and particularly an insatiable desire to make the acquaintance of all sorts and conditions of notable people soon brought him into contact with many of the distinguished men of the time. Dr Samuel Johnson was then a conspicuous figure in the literary society of the metropolis, and Boswell had a supreme desire to make his acquaintance, which was soon realised. It was during his second visit to London that he met Johnson for the first time on May 16, 1763, in the back-parlour of Tom Davies's shop, Russell Street, and the acquaintance between them soon ripened into a warm friendship, which, as far as Boswell was concerned, stood the strain of many a brutal rebuff which has not failed to bring upon the devoted head of the disciple the charge of obsequiousness. It should not be forgotten in this connection that Boswell's inherent liability to overstep the bounds of temperance, and his own humiliating consciousness of it in the presence of Johnson's stronger moral nature, explains his apparent servility which has been otherwise interpreted. Well Johnson knew his disciple's weakness and worth, and though such a nature is open to the censure and contempt of the self-righteous, it is never

beyond hope, and certainly should not be denied compassion. Indeed, the nature which falls, sins, and sincerely repents, frequently belongs to a higher plane of being than the nature which has made no error in the eyes of the world, or the one which is conscious of its nakedness and yet is not ashamed. A few months after they met, Johnson accompanied Boswell on his way to Harwich, with the object of studying civil law at Utrecht, and parted from him after giving him much sage advice, which is to be feared was forgotten in the presence of temptation, for at Utrecht Boswell's time does not appear to have been well spent. After spending one winter between study and dissipation on an allowance from his father of £240, he went on a tour through Germany, Switzerland, and Italy. While on this tour he made the acquaintance of Voltaire and Rousseau, with that persistency which was so characteristic of him where men of distinction were concerned. From Rousseau he obtained a letter of introduction to Paoli, the Corsican patriot, whose fame at the time was resounding throughout Europe. Boswell's reception amongst the Corsicans was such that it greatly flattered his vanity. He donned the Corsican dress, and played the great Englishman with characteristic pomp, asking and answering questions of political import with all the assumption of an ambassador of State. By way of varying the entertainment he played the German flute to the Corsicans, first giving them Italian airs, which greatly pleased them, then Scots airs, which pleased them still more. The pastoral gaiety and natural charm of the Scottish music, we are informed, transported them with delight. Boswell tells us that amongst the Scots airs which so effectually appealed to the Corsicans, though indifferently rendered, were "The Lass of Patie's Mill" and "Corn Rigs are Bonnie." "Hearts of Oak," which he not only sung to them, but translated into Italian for them, made them frantic with joy. Returning through France in 1766, he escorted Therese Levasseur on her way to join Rousseau in England, and the same year was admitted advocate and practised with some degree of success At any rate, we find his name in connection with the last stages of the Douglas cause, which puzzled the wits

of so many of the legal faculty in the eighteenth century. In 1767 he waited upon Chatham, clothed in a Corsican dress, to plead for Paoli, and was honoured with a letter from the famous statesman, which encouraged him to ask Chatham if he would do him the further honour of keeping up a correspondence with him. In 1768 his account of Corsica was published, which, though praised and admired by Johnson, was severely criticised by others, but is still regarded as an authoritative work on the subject. In 1769 he married his cousin, after a number of love adventures with other women. It is claimed for his wife that she was a woman of superior qualities, but she was not successful in reforming his intemperate habits, or curing his dissatisfaction with the world and society, which was largely due to the distorted medium through which his own degenerate nature saw them. These defects made him unpopular amongst the leading literary men of London society, and it was only by the influence of Johnson that he was admitted to the membership of the famous Literary Club in 1773. Later in the same year he made his memorable journey to the Hebrides in his master's company. In 1776 the Auchinleck estate was entailed upon him, and in the August of 1782 he succeeded, on his father's death, to an estate of £1600 a year. In 1786 he was called to the English Bar, and with better prospects came the ambition to enter upon a political career, but he failed to secure the influence which was necessary to justify him in entering upon a political contest, and he expressed his surprise at the utter folly of Pitt "in not seeing the value of his popular and pleasant talents." Boswell's last meeting with Johnson was at a dinner at the house of Sir Joshua Reynolds in the beginning of the year 1784, towards the close of which Johnson died. Five years later came the death of Boswell's wife, who, under trying circumstances, had been a devoted mother and a loyal and dutiful wife. After her death the intemperate habits of Boswell, to which he had been less or more addicted all his life, greatly increased, and from his fruitless efforts to reclaim himself and the hopeless despondency arising from his financial difficulties, he found relief in preparing his life of Johnson, which

engaged his attention for several years. The work at length appeared in May, 1791, and rapidly acquired that popularity it so well deserved—a popularity which has been duly endorsed by subsequent generations. A second edition was issued in July, 1793, but since then many editions have appeared, the latest and best of which are those by Napier in 1884, and Dr Birbeck Hill, 1887. In spite of the financial success of the work, and the fame it brought to its author during his lifetime, it failed to lighten the despair and gloom which had settled upon him, or reclaim him from his drunken habits. After a brief illness, the man who wrote the greatest and most charming biography that has ever been produced died of old age at fifty-five in London, May 19th, 1795.

WM. M'ILWRAITH.

LAMB AND HIS LITERARY FRIENDS ON BURNS.

TO those not perhaps too deeply conversant with the delightful correspondence of Elia it will seem, I daresay, a matter for wonder what he and his friends had to do with Burns! Not very much, I grant, estimated by quantity, but, judged by the other standard—well, a good deal. We of the Burns cult consider every scrap of Burnsiana precious, and the few Lamb-touches are doubly so, coming as they do from such a charming personality as his, and directed, as they were, to the equally charming characterisation of our beloved Bard, at a time, too, when he was, so to speak, down in his luck—in the cold shade of popularity. Could Burns in his last sad Dumfries days but have heard away in the far-off London the reverberation of Lamb's and his literary friends' admiration and sympathy, it would, you may be sure, have made his own generous, but then sometimes forlorn bosom bound with the sweetest of joys!

In those days London was indeed very far away compared with the present time with its railways, telegraphs, hourly postal service, and daily morning and evening newspapers; and it is this very remoteness of a sleepy Ayrshire and Dumfriesshire from the great metropolis that piques our interest and curiosity to-day in connection with these slender Lamb utterings and thinkings on the genius and character of Burns.

In Scotland, Allan Ramsay, the prosperous poet and highly respected Edinburgh citizen, had died comfortably in his bed the year before Burns was born; and poor young Fergusson, some fifteen years later, had expired in a pauper madhouse the year before Lamb saw the light; while Scott was a lame, sickly boy, and Carlyle still in the land of nowhere, nearly forty years having to elapse before he was to settle in Ampton Street, Gray's Inn Lane, London, and make the acquaintance of the Lambs.

Pope had been dead some thirty years, and Goldsmith and his fellow-associates of the Garrick Club had just been laid in their graves, and the road cleared for the return of poetry to nature at the hands of Lamb's lifelong friends, Wordsworth and Coleridge, the work having been begun by Thomson and continued by Cowper and Burns, Cowper being busy on *The Task* at Olney when Burns was farming with his brother Gilbert at Mossgiel and writing the bulk of his most remarkable poems.

The great French Revolution had just taken place, which set the blood a-tingling in all freedom loving poets' breasts, notably that of Burns, who paid dearly for his enthusiasm; and Wordsworth, who, however, soon recovering his mental equilibrium, settled down in the Lake district some ten years later to begin the serious literary work of his lifetime, with De Quincey for twenty years as his Grasmere neighbour, reading and dreaming and drinking opium.

Lamb was just beginning life, a young man not out of his teens, a junior clerk in the East India House, a Londoner of the Londoners, revelling in "the sweet security of streets," when Burns was nearing the end of his life's journey, having entered upon the last stage, viz., the few brief checkered years of the Dumfries period, gauging ale firkins and wandering by the banks of his beautiful Nith, composing those deathless lyrics for *Thomson's Collection* which were to make him the greatest song writer of all time.

Lamb had not commenced authorship, though he had been storing up in his mind the quaintly precious materials out of which he was by-and-bye to construct that series of bewitching essays of which, as classics, the world is as proud to-day as it is of Burns's immortal lyrics. Though we cannot be certain of the exact date at which Elia made the acquaintance of the Ayrshire Bard, it must have been somewhere about the period we are sketching, or perhaps even earlier, for, as will be seen later on, we have it on his own statement that in his early life he had a passionate fondness for the poetry of Burns, which most interesting declaration is amply borne out by the few extracts

I purpose culling from his correspondence, showing that he not only knew the Scottish Bard, but knew him in a very loving and intimate way.

And yet the wantonly witty things he has to say of the Poet's countrymen, you may be thinking, are not easy of reconcilement with this view. I grant, indeed, that they are the reverse of flattering, unless taken with the customary pinch of salt—the usual margin allowed to the humorist, which, I may remark here in passing, is not the merry author of *The Unspeakable Scot's* way of taking them, thereby convicting himself of the very sin for which Lamb indicts Scotsmen, viz., taking everything for gospel, his sin being all the greater inasmuch as he smugly makes (let us charitably hope against his better judgment) capital and copy out of it into the bargain.

You must all be familiar with that passage in one of Elia's delightful essays, "Imperfect Sympathies," where he portrays, in a vein of surpassing richness of humour, the characteristics of the Caledonian mind. How he sets the Scottish intellect up for a target, and in the most prodigal fashion fires away like one possessed. It is splendid fun! You can see the twinkle of humour in his eye as shaft after shaft of wit glances from his bow. But if Lamb enjoys the fun, so does the reader—even the Caledonian reader. The truth is, we cannot choose but laugh with the good-natured satirist, the conceits he heaps upon us have such a comical sparkle without a single drop of gall.

It is not so much that stale old libel of his countrymen's he brings against us—that we are unable to understand a joke without a surgical operation—as that our minds are of such a highly-proper, fully-clothed, correct, and perfect constitution that nothing is ever required to be discounted from our speech or taken for granted, hence we are totally unable to appreciate suggestiveness rather than comprehensiveness in the talk of others. We must be spoken to by the card or equivocation undoes all. A Scotsman's conversation, Lamb declares, "is as a book. His affirmations have the sanctity of an oath. You must speak upon the square with him. He stops a metaphor like a suspected

person in an enemy's country. Above all, you must beware of indirect expressions before a Caledonian. An impracticable wish is more than he can conceive. I was present not long since at a party of North Britons, where a son of Burns was expected, and happened to drop a silly expression (in my South British way), that I wished it were the father instead of the son, when four of them started up at once to inform me 'that was impossible, because he was dead.'"

"Yet," he says, with charming mock-pathos, "I have been trying all my life to like Scotsmen, and am obliged to desist from the experiment in despair. They cannot like me, and, in truth, I never knew one of that nation who attempted to do it. In my early life I had a passionate fondness for the poetry of Burns. I have sometimes foolishly hoped to ingratiate myself with his countrymen by expressing it, but I have always found that a true Scot resents your admiration of his compatriot even more than he would your contempt of him. The latter he imputes to your 'imperfect acquaintance with many of the words which he uses;' and the same objection makes it a presumption in you to suppose that you can admire him."

Poor Lamb! I wonder if, in any of those London visits to Ampton Street, Gray's Inn Lane, he ever tried to ingratiate himself with that most colossal of nineteenth century Scotsmen, Thomas Carlyle, by means of the Scottish Bard, whom Carlyle himself loved so well and had written so eloquently about at Craigenputtock only two years before, becoming a denizen of Ampton Street, and if he put his foot in it through some foolish non-Caledonian whimsicality or another? Lamb's "passionate fondness for the poetry of Burns," apart altogether from his gentle and patiently heroic self, should have begot in the breast of this terrible moral censor something else than contempt. It is a lasting rebuke to both their narrownesses that Lamb and Carlyle did not understand and appreciate each other. Carlyle ought to have cherished (not caricatured) this most precious and fragile morsel of English genius, and he would have done so had he had the gift to know him. And Lamb—poor, stuttering, weak, timid,

punning Lamb—had he not missed it, too, would have counted it a privilege to have a place of shelter in the bosom of this big, robust, yet tender-hearted Scots man of letters.

The probability is, however, that Lamb never expressed his "passionate fondness for the poetry of Burns" in Carlyle's presence, or, if he did, the likelihood is that he fared no better at his hands than at those of the other true Scots who resented his admiration of their compatriot as a piece of presumption on his part. One could fancy Carlyle, with his prejudiced notion of Lamb—that he was a purely cockneyish product with an insuperable proclivity to gin, and his wit a kind of diluted insanity rather than real humour—breaking into a fit of laughter at the bare idea of such a "windle-strae o' a creat're," such "a sorry phenomenon," to use his own words—such an "emblem of imbecility, bodily and spiritual"—thinking himself capable of appreciating a great and natural genius like this "haggis-fed" Ayrshire ploughman.

It is nevertheless a fact which cannot be laughed out of court, not even by the capacious lungs of the wise Thomas, if they ever got the chance, that Lamb admired and loved the poetry of Burns; for it is unmistakably recorded in black and white in that wondrous correspondence of his; and very touching it is to see the warm and generous allusions of this shy London scholar and essayist to the Scottish Bard, divided as he was from him by a good many things besides distance, which, as already noted, was considerable in the end of the eighteenth century.

In a letter to his friend Coleridge, who was living at Bristol and just on the threshold of his literary career (Lamb himself would only be about twenty-one years of age), which was written sometime between the end of May and beginning of June, 1796, and about the time Burns would be staying at the Brow in search of that health which he was never to find, Lamb says, in criticism of an extract from the *Religious Musings*, "That is a capital line in your sixth number:

This dark, frieze-coated, teeth-chattering month.

They are exactly such epithets as Burns would have stumbled on,

whose poem on the ploughed-up daisy you seem to have had in mind."

A little later (December 10th, 1796), after Burns had been some five months in his grave, he is writing to his friend Coleridge again. Like the young peasant Poet in "The Vision," he is in a despondent mood through home and other troubles; has sworn to have nothing more to do with poetry, and taken to the burning of manuscript. He had written, indeed, only a few days before in a similar strain, "At length I have done with verse-making," and Coleridge had remonstrated with him in the interval in the following lines:—

> But take thou heed;
> For thou art vulnerable, wild-eyed boy,
> And I have arrows mystically dipt,
> Such as may stop thy speed. Is thy Burns dead?
> And shall he die unwept, and sink to earth
> "Without the meed of one melodious tear?"
> Thy Burns, and Nature's own beloved bard,
> Who to "the illustrious of his native land
> So properly did look for patronage,"
> Ghost of Maecenas! hide thy blushing face!
> They snatched him from the sickle and the plough—
> To gauge ale-firkins.

"You sent me," Lamb says, continuing his letter of the 10th December, "some very sweet lines relative to Burns, but it was at a time when, in my highly agitated and perhaps somewhat distorted state of mind, I thought it a duty to read 'em hastily and burn 'em. I burned all my verses." Further on in the same letter he says, referring doubtless to the short poem of which the above lines are a quotation—"Publish your *Burns* when and how you like, it will be new to me; my memory of it is very confused and tainted with unpleasant associations. Burns was the god of my idolatry, as Bowles is of yours. I am jealous of your fraternising with Bowles when I think you relish him more than Burns, or my old favourite, Cowper."

Reverting still further on in the same letter to his uncongenial London surroundings, without the society of his friend Coleridge, "the remembrance of which," he says, "is a blessing partly, and partly a curse;" and which society, with its "damned

foolish sensibility and melancholy," his relations at home blame for all poor Charles's madness—I say, reverting to his unhappy environment, he declares, "Not a soul loves Bowles here; scarce one has heard of Burns; few but laugh at me for reading my Testament. . They talk a language I understand not."

It is likewise interesting to note some remarks of his friend and biographer, Barry Cornwall, bearing on this period of his life, in which he avers to Coleridge that "Burns is the god of my idolatry, as Bowles of yours." "Posterity," remarks Barry Cornwall, "has universally joined in the preference of Lamb. Burns, indeed, was always one of his greatest favourites. He admired and sometimes quoted a line or two from the last stanza of the 'Lament for James, Earl of Glencairn'—'The bridegroom may forget his bride,' etc.; and I have more than once heard him repeat, in a fond tender voice, when the subject of poets or poetry came under discussion, the following beautiful lines from the 'Epistle to Simpson of Ochiltree'—

> The Muse, nae poet ever fand her,
> Till by himsel' he learn'd to wander
> Adown some trotting burn's meander,
> An' no think lang.

These he would press upon the attention of any one present (chanting them aloud), and would bring down the volume of *Burns*, and open it, in order that the page might be impressed on the reader's memory. Sometimes—in a way scarcely discernible—he would kiss the volume; as he would also a book by Chapman or Sir Philip Sidney, or any other which he particularly valued."

In another letter to Coleridge, February 13th, 1797, after criticising some more of his friend's poetical workmanship, he relates how, on the afternoon of the day he was writing, he had been attending the funeral of his poor old aunt. This announcement leads him into a train of reflections on mortality. "Good God," he says, "who could have foreseen all this" (by "all this" he means his mother's murder by the hand of his sister in a fit of insanity, his querulous, paralytic father's death, and now his

aunt's)—"who could have foreseen all this but four months back? I reckoned, in particular, on my aunt's living many years; she was a hearty old woman. But she was a mere skeleton when she died, looked more like a corpse that had lain weeks in the grave than one fresh dead. Coleridge, why are we to live on after all the strength and beauty of existence is gone, when all the life of life is fled, as poor Burns expresses it?"

Lamb, indeed, has shown himself to be no inconsiderable student of Burns. The poet's love for the lowest forms of created things has not escaped him. In a letter to Southey, March 20th, 1799, he tells him that his "Spider" has quite a Burnsian flavour about it, and wonders that the Bard of Ayrshire never stumbled upon the subject in his lifetime. "I love this sort of poems," he says, "that open up a new intercourse with the most despised of the animal and insect race. I think this vein may be further opened. Peter Pindar hath very prettily apostrophised a fly; Burns hath his mouse and his louse; Coleridge less successfully hath made overtures of intimacy to a jackass, therein only following, at unresembling distance, Sterne and greater Cervantes;" and why, he considers pursuing this humorous conceit, "may not Elia become a partner with Southey in the animal poem trade, and thereby contribute to the breaking down of the partition between us and our poor earth-born companions? If old Quarles and Wither could live again, we would invite them into our firm. Burns hath done his part."

In still another letter to Coleridge, August or September, 1800, after some gossip about his domestic arrangements, we come across this passage—"Have you seen the new edition of *Burns*—his posthumous works and letters? I have only been able to procure the first volume, which contains his life—very confusedly and badly written, and interspersed with dull pathological and medical discussions. It is written by a Dr Currie. Do you know the well-meaning doctor? Alas! *ne sutor ultra crepidam.*"

Lamb, in his own humorous way, has hit off the character of Currie's *Life* more prosperously than a detailed and serious criticism would have done. There is doubtless a good big slice

of truth in the witty Elia's remarks. But then, to be fair to "the well-meaning doctor," it must be remembered that he was not a professional man of letters. On the contrary, he was a physician and scientist, resident in Liverpool, engrossed in the study of fevers and their treatment by cold affusion, and only yielded, out of his kindness of heart, after repeated solicitations from the poet's friends, to undertake the editing of his works, published ostensibly with the charitable object of providing for the widow and children. A professional man of letters, he states in his dedicatory preface, could not be found to undertake the editorship, though every endeavour was made to procure one. "The task," he says, "was beset with considerable difficulties, and men of established reputation naturally declined an undertaking, to the performance of which it was scarcely to be hoped that general approbation could be obtained by any exertion of judgment or temper." Moreover, the subject itself was new and perplexing. Burns was a phenomenon which dazzled, bewildered, and puzzled. The world had not had sufficient leisure yet to see all round about him, and perhaps the "dull pathological" method was the only one open to Currie. By the time Carlyle came to write his essay on the genius and character of the poet the subject was a little better understood and its dimensions more able to be gauged.

April 26th, 1816, sixteen years after he wrote the foregoing condemnatory paragraph, we find Lamb in a letter to Wordsworth once more expressing himself on the same subject. It appears that a friend of Burns, presumably the Rev. James Gray, master of the Grammar School, Dumfries, on account of an intended republication of the Currie edition by the poet's brother Gilbert, consulted Wordsworth as to the best mode of vindicating the reputation of the poet, which, it was alleged, had been much injured by the publication of Dr Currie's *Life and Correspondence of Burns.* Wordsworth seems to have given Lamb a sight of his letter to his friend, for Lamb writes to Wordsworth—"The letter I read with unabated satisfaction. Such a thing was wanted—called for. The parallel of Cotton with Burns I heartily approve. Izaak Walton hallows any page in which his reverend name appears."

Though this is the last written word to be found in the correspondence of Lamb relative to Burns, it shows that the passion of his early youth, tamed down a little perhaps with age, was the same. There is something quite touching in the circumstance of Lamb and Wordsworth, in these now far-off days, standing up in defence of the character of Burns—two men, not only so different from each other in many aspects of their characterisation, but also so different from the Scottish Bard himself, who was all nerves, and fire, and feeling. And there is also something consolatory for the hearts of Burns's admirers in the reflection that during the years when their beloved poet was on his trial, so to speak, this school of English Lake poets and *literati*, of whom Lamb was as good as one, clearly and enthusiastically recognised from the first the marvellous genius of the young Scottish ploughman who had gone down into his untimely grave amid so much pious head-shaking and uncharitable whispering from the "unco guid." Nor did they ever afterwards waver in their loyalty to their great inspirer and reformer, to whom, perhaps, they owed more than to any literary influence, not even excepting Cowper's, their own emancipation from the thraldom of Pope and his highly-polished and technically-correct artificialities, and the general reversion to realism and Nature.

WM. FINDLAY, M.D. ("GEORGE UMBER").

BURNS AND THE ETHICS OF HIS TIMES.

BURNS as Man and as Poet has so completely filled the public mind that the question of his times, and what he and they were to each other, has never been fairly raised. The greater has uniformly absorbed the less.

The last 40 years of the 18th century—the period covered by Burns's life—were an age in themselves. To indicate what this means would take a volume, but three things at least may serve:—That within that time there was a change in literature first of all; that thereby literary men ceased to wear classic "spectacles," and used their own eyes; and, finally, that this change was effected in great part by the study of ancient ballads and of peasant songs. With these movements the great men of the period had more or less to do. In Burns's case we can mark the process step by step. To begin with, he had no need to put off classic "spectacles," for the simple reason that he never wore them. It was with his own eyes he looked. To be sure he had the choice of being as "classic" as he pleased, but, beyond the humorous remonstrance which culminates in "gie me ae spark o' Nature's fire," he seems to ignore the classic tradition altogether. The truth is that as Poet he was singularly independent of any kind of "classic." However much his prose and some of his poems testify to his recognition of standard English, in his later years especially he reserved his own form of language as rigidly as his own sort of theme. In his bargain with Thomson, the song collector (1792), he insists at once—"If you are for English verses, there is on my part an end of the matter." In short, amongst those who represented the latter part of the 18th century in its attitude towards conventional ways of looking at Nature, whether in substance or in form, Burns, like the Levite of old, passed by, with little or no attention, on the other side. By no

means a revolutionary way of helping the "return to Nature," it was in some respects the best.

Correlative with this, of course, is the life of thinking, feeling, and singing for himself. He had one classic—his own heart: his return to Nature was a return to Himself. At the same time, he was with his century in its search for the poems of a more natural age, though here again his originality breaks out. Whereas Percy, Warton, and the rest revive the ancient ballads, Burns collects or assists in collecting the printed and unwritten songs of his own and recent times, confirming the genius of some, and giving new life and form to others. Moreover, he restores the minstrelsy of the period with such devoted care, and weds it so deftly to his art, as to make us question if he is not musician first and poet afterwards. "I am out of temper," he says in one note, "that you should set so sweet, so tender an air to the foolish old verses." Whenever he wanted to be "*more* than ordinary in song" he had a diviner recipe, "the regimen (as he calls it) of admiring a fine woman," but on the whole he is second only to Scott in bringing his century back to Nature by way of the "auld Scotch sangs."

What, then, is his contribution to his own times, and in what respect have these left their mark upon him? We cannot account for his genius whatever his times may be; is there not, however, a phrase or formula by which the element of time, the relation of his age to himself may be expressed?

Before answering, or trying to answer, this question, it is well to learn in what spirit and manner he faced the problems which beset every generation no matter by what limitations it is confined. It was part of the tradition of the 18th century that just as there were certain ways, and certain ways only, of expressing ideas, so there was a definite number of ideas and no more bequeathed and sanctioned by classic use. These might, and did exclude the ideals to which Burns, Wordsworth, and Scott gave individual vogue; on the other hand, they comprised, and were bound to comprise, the general notions of God, Man, and Nature, without which neither literature nor tradition can exist. How are these

notions viewed by Burns? Taking them as they come, we may affirm at once that Burns found two ideas of God around him, and humanised them both. First of all, he dealt with that view of God which removed Him to a distance in space, remote from the motions of His own world. Taking his cue from Pope, he connected the Author of the Universe so closely with its moral government as to make Him not merely the Benevolent Disposer of all good, but also the Designer of that which forms his own erring life. Pope's famous lines—

> All Nature is but Art, unknown to thee;
>
> . . . . . .
>
> All discord, harmony not understood;
> All partial evil, universal good,

appear to level God to the plane of the Designer of Evil. Burns brings God nearer still to the individual lot in words, the humanising nature of which is too seldom realised—

> Thou knowest Thou hast formed me
> With passions wild and strong,
> And, list'ning to their witching voice,
> Has often led me wrong.

For this he has been often condemned. To condemn is easy. Would Burns have been more readily acquitted if, with a heart based (as he tells us) on the benevolence of God, he had brought Him less near? Burns was no philosopher in the sense of reducing God or Man to principles and propositions. He had a woman's instinct for the personal; it is by this he judges all things human and Divine; it is by this he must himself be judged.

The second notion of God which came in Burns's way, to be most unceremoniously bundled out, was a local corollary of the first. It lies at the heart of Predestination, and briefly amounts to this—that God, whether or not He be remote in Space, is distinctly remote in Time.

> What was I, or my generation,
> That I should get sic exaltation,
> I wha deserve sic just damnation
> For broken laws,
> Five thousand years 'fore my creation,
> Thro' Adam's cause.

With what ironical fury Burns assailed this doctrine in prose and in verse we need not pause to consider. "Holy Willie's Prayer" forms the frontal attack: the "Cottar's Saturday Night," in a gentler mood, takes it, so to speak, upon the flank. The theory of Predestination was local, and to some extent is local still: but, so far at least as the freedom of God is concerned, it is, thanks to Burns, removed from all locality, and, as an article of faith, for ever dead. When Wordsworth appears to bring God closer still and interfuse His Spirit with the things of Space, there is no requirement to remove the barriers of Time. Burns has done that, and done it once for all.

Turning now to the subject of Man, and taking the 18th century aspect at its best, we may profitably contrast Burns with Pope. Pope, it has been shown, commits himself on this point to a contradiction; on the one hand, he speaks of the Almighty as a Being

> Who sees with equal eye, as God of all,
> A hero perish, or a sparrow fall;

on the other, he protests that "An honest man's the noblest work of God."

Be it contradiction or not, it is surpassed by Burns, who, while he links Man with the creatures of the dust, takes care to show that that dignity is conferred upon them by no arbitrary fiat of the Divine, but by Man himself, and by his sympathy. The distinction is difficult to express; we need, however, do no more than peruse Burns's poems on the lowly companions of his daily toil to feel that his ideal of Man takes him beyond that "poor Indian" of Pope—

> Whose untutored mind,
> Sees God in clouds, and hears Him in the wind;
> . . . . . .
> Who asks no angel's wing, no seraph's fire,
> But thinks, admitted to that equal sky,
> His faithful dog shall bear him company.

So, too, with Pope's dictum that "An honest man's the noblest work of God." To all appearances, it forestalls the fine catholicity of "A man's a man for a' that," and no amount of

analysis can seemingly distinguish in favour of the latter; at the same time, when we reach the concluding stanza—

> For a' that, an' a' that,
> It's coming yet, for a' that,
> That man to man, the warld o'er,
> Shall brothers be for a' that,

we feel that Pope, in whose eyes

> A wit's a feather, and a chief a rod,

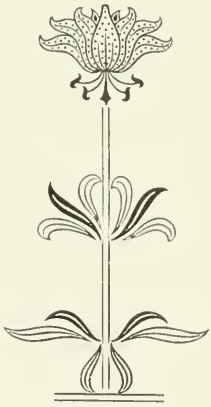
is centuries behind. To universalise the "honest man" is the credit of Burns alone; and in whatever respect we may have exceeded his conceptions of God and of Nature, we have not lived up to his vision of the brotherhood of man either in theory or in practice.

The place of Nature in our Poet's scheme is well known. Had we nothing but his prose to fall back upon, we should see at once that he has clean broken with the traditions of the 18th century, while at the same time he is in line with its aspirations after such freedom and natural truth as are to be found in Thomson's "Seasons." The spirit that prompted him and the poets of his age to regard Shakespeare as "wild" may have prevented him from dwelling on the mountain-top with Wordsworth and Scott; on the other hand, his views of Nature are as infinite as his moods, and, most characteristic of all, the atmosphere in which they are seen is that of human love, such as his heart alone could produce. As in the matter of brotherhood so in this, his equal is still to be found.

Thus we are brought round at length to ask—What contribution did Burns make to his own times, and what impression did they leave upon him? Distinguishing between Burns the poet and Burns the writer of prose, we may conclude, without further illustration, that in the former case *he* left his mark upon his period; in the latter *it* left its mark upon him. This is the rough distinction. Speaking more precisely, and remembering that the last period of the 18th century faced both ways—towards the new as well as towards the old—we should sum up the matter

thus:—That however the account stands between the Poet and his times, his contribution was a free personality as against a set of principles, a life *versus* a tradition, an incarnation of nature as compared with foreshadowings of the same. There is a period in the life of every epoch when individuals and ideas, more or less natural, coalesce into one Type which some Individual of a new type must shatter. The 18th century was that type; Burns was that Individual. That type was *contra naturam*; Burns was "Nature's self."

ALEX. S. BROWN.



BURNS TOPOGRAPHY.

Kilmaurs and Neighbourhood.

THOUGH Burns's connection with the county of his birth bulks most largely in Kyle and Carrick, Cunningham is also a sharer in the lustre which attaches to his name. While Alloway is the birthplace of the man, Kilmarnock is the birthplace of the Poet, and the valley of the Irvine is almost as closely associated with the early years of his manhood as the Ayr and Doon are with those of his boyhood and youth. At Dunlop House he was a frequent visitor, in Loudoun Manse he had most appreciative friends, in Stewarton his uncle Robert lived and died, he himself resided in Irvine for a short period, and his patron, the Earl of Glencairn, belonged to the main stem of the Cunninghames, Lords Kilmaurs, who for generations had their principal residence in the parish of that name. In the middle of the eighteenth century the fortunes of the family were in a decadent state, and in order to retrieve them, William, the 13th Earl, married the adopted daughter of the wealthy and eccentric Governor Macrae, which lady brought him a considerable fortune. It was this Governor Macrae who presented the statue of King William III. to the city of Glasgow, and who showed his gratitude to the friend of his boyhood—a fiddler in Ayr named M'Guire—by making county ladies and gentlemen of his family. James, 14th Earl, the friend and patron of Burns, was the second son by this marriage who succeeded to the title owing to the death of his elder brother. He was reputed a man of rare virtues and accomplishments. He died at an early age, and was buried at Falmouth, whither he had gone to take ship in hopes that a warmer climate would restore his shattered health. Lady Betty Cunningham, the correspondent of Burns, was his sister, as was also Lady Harriet Don. The Glencairns were an able family,

and have left their mark on Scottish history. Cuthbert, the 3rd Earl, who erected Kilmaurs into a Burgh of Barony in 1527, took an active part in the stirring events of the reigns of James IV. and James V.; Alexander, the 5th Earl, was the bosom friend of John Knox, and his right hand man in the troublous days of the Reformation; William, the 9th Earl, became Chancellor of Scotland, and was interred with great pomp in St. Giles' Cathedral, Edinburgh; and the 12th and 13th Earls were also noted public

The Kirkton and Kilmaurs Church.

men in their day. The M'Guire marriage did not prevent the alienation of the Cunningham estates, which, for the most part, were purchased, *circa* 1786, by a Miss Scott, who afterwards became Duchess of Portland. Though the Kilmaurs residence of the family is described, about the year 1600, by Timothy Pont as "ane ancient stronge bulding, environed with a faire parke called Carmel Wod from the vatter of Carmel that runs by it," the oldest inhabitant has no knowledge of it even as a ruin. Its site, however, is still pointed out on the farm of Jockstborn, a short distance from the church. The ruins of an old keep are still to

be seen contiguous to the mansion known as The Place, and they are perhaps all that now remain of an earlier habitation in the more remote feudal times when strength was of more importance than elegance. The title is now extinct, the successor of Burns's patron having also died without issue. The family burial-place for generations was in an aisle on the east side of the Parish Church, which contains one of the finest specimens of mural sepulchral architecture to be seen in Scotland, erected in 1600 by James, the 7th Earl, as a memorial of his family, and also "to perpetuate his race and name," as the almost obliterated inscription informs us. The monument was recently restored under our supervision, but the vault has long been disused for interments. An illustration of the monument appeared in Vol. XIV. of the *Chronicle* in connection with Mr Brodie's article on West Renfrewshire, to which we refer our readers.

The Church of Kilmaurs, or part of it at least, is of great age, some authorities tracing its beginning back to early in the 13th century. The whole fabric was modernised and renovated about twenty years ago, the cruciform ground plan and old walls being preserved, and a steeple erected. In an orchard close by, an old ruin still stands to some height, which is conjectured to be the sole remnant of the extensive accommodation required by the ecclesiastical functionaries of pre-Reformation days. The incumbent in Burns's day was the Rev. Alexander Millar, the "Wee Millar" of the *Holy Fair*.

Wee Millar niest the Guard relieves,
  An' Orthodoxy raibles,
Tho' in his heart he weel believes,
  An' thinks it auld wives' fables ;
But, faith ! the birkie wants a manse,
  So cannily he hums them ;
Altho' his carnal Wit and Sense
  Like hafflins-wise o'ercomes him
    At times that day.

Millar was ordained to the charge of Kilmaurs in 1788, consequently when the *Holy Fair* was composed he was a general candidate for all vacancies, and therefore designedly ingratiating

in his pulpit utterances. His successor was ordained in 1806, and his immediate predecessor died on 26th November, 1786, as his tombstone in the graveyard informs us. Millar was a man of diminutive stature, but local tradition has preserved little information regarding him. His son became partner in the firm of Millar & Donald, ironmongers, Kilmarnock, from which he ultimately retired, and died in the island of Arran. The Rev. D. Smeaton or Smytane officiated in the Seceding Church of Kilmaurs when Burns had the clergy in hand, and from the way the Poet refers in one of his letters to the "whining cant" of the worthy man we can infer that he did not belong to the Broad Church party of that day. Smeaton happened to come to Kilmaurs when the Rev. Hugh Thomson, at one time minister of the parish, was preaching to a section of his flock in his own barn at Tour Hill, having been tricked out of his charge, as the story goes, by the patron, who induced him to resign Kilmaurs by promising to present him to Stewarton, which promise was not kept. Smeaton married one of his daughters, settled in the parish, and built a church, which was the first Seceder meeting-house in Ayrshire, and formed the nucleus of the U.P. congregation of after years.

Pont describes the "toune of Kilmauers" as "a large village seatted in a good soyle and verey populous." It was made a Burgh of Barony, as we have said, in 1527, the foundation being a gift of 240 acres, divided equally among 40 tenementers, on somewhat curious conditions. The intention was to found a community of crofters, partly subsisting by skilled handicraft—in this case that of cutlery, for which Kilmaurs was long famous. The project failed, as it has done everywhere else, and the tenements, with small exception, gradually passed by descent and purchase into the hands of larger holders. The half-yearly fairs were important Cunningham fixtures for the sale of cows, and were kept up till within the last few years. The "Cunningham Fair," referred to in the *Jolly Beggars*, in all probability refers to Kilmaurs. Burns, as we know from his letters to Mrs Dunlop, attended Kilmaurs Fair in a business capacity, as did most of

the farmers in the northern part of the county, and no other market for bestial was equal to it in the division indicated save Auchinleck, which was mostly for sheep and lambs. When visiting Dunlop House by way of Kilmarnock he was bound to pass through Kilmaurs either by the old Stewarton road or the highway which passes through the main street of the village. The

Kilmaurs Cross and Council House.

quaint old Council House, which, like all ancient structures of the kind, stands in the centre of the main thoroughfare, must therefore have been a familiar sight to him. There is a persistent tradition in Stewarton that the Poet anathematised the roads leading to Dunlop in the following epigram which Scott Douglas printed in his Kilmarnock edition, but without any more substantial authority than the tradition referred to. It is good

enough in its way, but it lacks, in our opinion, the Burns finish :—

> I'm now arrived—thanks to the gods !
> Through pathways rough and muddy ;
> A certain sign that makin' roads
> Is no' this people's study :
> Although I'm no' wi' Scripture crammed,
> I'm sure the Bible says,
> That heedless sinners shall be damn'd,
> Who do not mend their *ways*.

About a mile north from the Cross of Kilmaurs, in a narrow strip of the parish of Dreghorn sandwiched between Kilmaurs and Stewarton, is situated the farm of Titwood, in the vicinity of which, Robert, the uncle of the Poet, resided for a considerable period in the capacity of a cotter or agricultural labourer. When the two brothers, Robert and William, set out from the Mearns to try their fortunes it is probable that they kept together for some time, earning their living by manual labour as opportunity offered. Be that as it may, certain it is that they both found their way into Ayrshire. William, the poet's father, obtained employment at Fairlie, or Old Rome, as it then was, and is still popularly designated, an estate situated close to the southern or Dundonald boundary of Kilmaurs, while Robert appears to have settled some five miles further north in the same locality. This early connection of the Burns family with Old Rome is suggestive, but of this more anon. When his family began to grow up around him Robert removed to Stewarton, in which town one of his sons is said to have plied the handicraft of a weaver, and is still remembered as an active member of the volunteer guard at that period embodied in nearly every village and hamlet to prevent the alleged ghastly outrages of the body-snatchers or Resurrectionists in the rural churchyards, which everywhere had roused the public mind to the highest pitch of indignation. We know also that one of Robert's daughters, Fanny by name, was adopted by her uncle and served in Ellisland as assistant to Jean Armour in her household duties ; and from the flattering way in which the Poet speaks of her and her brothers, William and John, coupled with the

solicitude he evinces with regard to their future welfare in his letter to James Burness, of Montrose (9th February, 1789), it is clear that the Poet took the warmest interest in his uncle's family, and that both men and women of them were worthy of the trust he reposed in them. Fanny Burns ultimately married one of Jean Armour's brothers, thereby doubly connecting herself with the family of the Poet. It has again and again been asserted that "poor uncle Robert" died at Ellisland, and this error still stands in Scott Douglas's Kilmarnock edition, though it was afterwards corrected in the Edinburgh, published by Paterson. The mistake seems to have arisen from the Poet's announcement of his uncle's death in the Ellisland letter already referred to, which runs:—"We have lost poor uncle Robert this winter. He had long been very weak, and, with very little alteration in him, he expired January 3rd" (1789). He was buried in the churchyard of Stewarton, where the remains of several members of the family lie interred beside him. The spot was pointed out to us some years ago by the parish sexton, who had a vivid recollection of some of uncle Robert's family, and mentioned by name those who were buried in the family lair. It lies to the north of the church, a short distance from the line of the western gable which faces the entrance, unmarked by tombstone or memorial of any description. We have repeatedly suggested to the Burnsites of Stewarton the propriety of rescuing the spot from oblivion, as has been done elsewhere in every churchyard wherein repose the ashes of the Poet's relations or of those upon whom he has conferred immortality by his writings, and we feel confident that a public appeal has only to be inaugurated to realise funds amply sufficient to erect a modest memorial if only as witness of the reality of the national sentiment in which everything that pertains to the Poet is enshrined.

William Burness, father of the Poet, was born in 1721, and left the family homestead in the Mearns, it is said, when a youth of 19. John Murdoch says he had been settled in Ayrshire ten or twelve years before he knew him in 1765. If that statement is correct, he must have been employed at Fairlie *circa* 1753-54, as

the lease of the cottage and land at Alloway is dated 23rd June, 1756, and he had previously been in the employment of Mr Crawford of Doonside and Provost Ferguson of Doonholm. But Murdoch's impression may be wrong, which would place the date of his residence at Fairlie several years earlier. When the Poet was superintending the printing of his first edition, his head-quarters were at "Old Rome Forest," or Fairlie, in the house of a James Allan, joiner or carpenter on the Fairlie estate, who was married to a half-sister of Burns's mother, whose father, Gilbert Brown, had been twice married. It has been stated that William Burns first met his future wife, Agnes Brown, in Maybole, but it is quite conceivable that Allan's connection with Fairlie dates further back than is supposed, thus rendering the probability of the forming of their acquaintanceship at Old Rome something more than a haphazard guess. There is undoubted evidence that the Poet had an intimate acquaintance with Fairlie and its belongings, which can only be accounted for on the grounds of personal contact and close observation. Take, for instance, the suppressed stanza in *Poor Mailie's Elegy*, the original of which is in the Kilmarnock Museum :—

> She was nae get o' runted rams,
> Wi' woo' like gaits, an' legs like trams;
> She was the flower o' Fairlie lambs,
> A famous breed!
> Now, Robin, greetin', chows the hams
> O' Mailie dead.

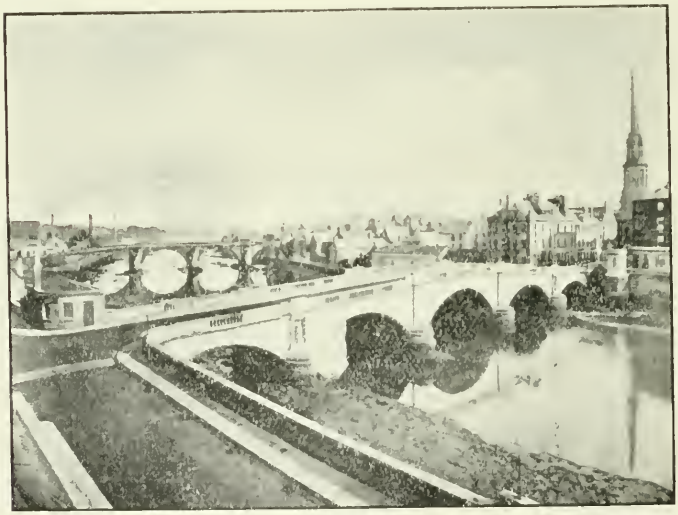
This appears in a MS. book of the Poet's which was begun in the autumn of 1785, before he thought of appearing in print. When he resided in Irvine, Fairlie was at a convenient distance; neither was Lochlea so far removed as to preclude frequent visits in those days when a walk of a score of miles per day was considered nothing exceptional. The James Allan referred to had a son of the same name, who took to a seafaring life, and became the progenitor of the firm which founded the Allan line of steamers. Old Rome became an early mining centre when the coal trade of the locality was in its infancy, and we remember a row of dilapi-

dated miners' houses on the further side of the bridge over the Irvine, all traces of which have now disappeared. Fairlie House is a modern edifice, but the stable and offices still to be seen on the Dundonald road seem to belong to an earlier period, and are probably identical with those in use when the Poet found refuge in the house of his aunt during the dark days which preceded his entry upon his birthright.

EDITOR.

PRESERVATION OF THE AULD BRIG O' AYR.

FOLLOWING on the instructions received by the Executive at the meetings of the Federation, and in addition to what appears in the minutes thereof, it may be stated that the late Mr David Mackay, president of the Federation, had several meetings with Mr Oswald of Auchincruive, Mr Morris, and the Voluntary Committee which these gentlemen had organised,



The "Auld" and first "New Brig" o' Ayr, fifty years ago.

By permission, from a beautiful Photograph (20 x 15), to be obtained only from Wm. Wilson, 57 New Road, Ayr, price 2s 9d post free.

and also with the Town Council of Ayr. One of the results of these meetings was that Mr Mackay was instructed to approach Lord Rosebery with a view to obtaining his consent to address a public meeting on behalf of the preservation of the Auld Brig on the lines advocated by the Voluntary Committee. Lord Rosebery's reply to this communication was not an absolute refusal, and a second appeal by Mr Morris was happily crowned with success. When Mr Mackay was laid aside by reason of the illness which terminated in his death, Captain Sneddon was appointed to take his place, and carried on the negotiations, in name of the Federation, with characteristic energy and business capacity. The proceedings are admirably summarised in the following circular issued by Mr Oswald when the arrangements for the Ayr meeting were in process of completion :—

The Auld Brig o' Ayr.

Auchincruive, Ayr, 10th September, 1906.

Dear Sir,—It may be within your recollection that on the 8th May, 1905, the Town Council of Ayr resolved to take down, and rebuild the Auld Brig o' Ayr. Having afterwards, however, considered voluntary reports from eminent engineers demonstrating the practicability of the preservation of the bridge, and, having regard also to the articles which appeared in the Press of the country adverse to a decision involving not only the irretrievable destruction of the ancient and historic structure, but also of its poetic associations, the Town Council on the 9th October last communicated to certain gentlemen advocating preservation its further resolution to delay actual operations on the bridge itself till the 1st March, 1906, in order that the public might, if so disposed, be afforded an opportunity of raising the money required for the purposes of repair and preservation.

Upon receipt of copies of that resolution, the gentlemen referred to met with Provost Allan, and at the first of two informal meetings were informed by him that the Templeton bequest of £10,000 (created by a holograph will), and of which the Town Council is trustee, could only be used for the re-building, and not in any way for the repair or preservation of the structure, and that the Council held high legal authority for its decision of the 8th May, 1905, to take down and re-build the bridge in terms of the bequest.

At the second of my Committee's meetings with the Provost, we submitted to him a scheme of conditional compromise with the heirs-at-law, having for its purpose the freeing of the bequest from its unfortunate limitations; but, after having considered the proposal of my Committee, and having taken the opinion of counsel thereon, it was, in the end, set aside by the Town Council; and, at its meeting with my Committee on the 9th January last, in place of the proposed compromise, there was substituted an agreement adjusted between us of which I have the honour to annex a copy for your information.

As the said agreement seems to formulate the only conditions upon which the bridge may be secured to the country, I have to express the hope that you may find it possible to attend a meeting to the furtherance of that end in the Town Hall, Ayr, on Tuesday, the 25th day of September, at 6.30 p.m., when the Right Honourable the Earl of Rosebery, K.G., K.T., who has kindly consented to be present, will deliver an address. The meeting will then be asked to consider, and if so agreed, to elect a large and influential committee for the purpose of supplementing and carrying out an agreement framed for the preservation of a bridge of so much archæological value and beauty; a bridge, moreover, which is not only an historic monument, but the last remaining link, yet fulfilling a useful and practical purpose between the Ayr of centuries ago and of to-day. To destroy an historic and archæological structure of so great beauty and of ever-increasing value is surely to be deplored; and when there is added thereto the poetic glamour with which the bridge is endowed, the loss becomes almost more than a national one, and so touches all who in the homeland and beyond the seas revere the genius of Robert Burns.—Yours very truly,

R. A. Oswald.

Excerpt from the Minutes of the Town Council certifying the Agreement adjusted with the Voluntary Committee.

A deputation, consisting of Mr Oswald of Auchincruive, Mr Neilson of Ewenfield, and Mr James A. Morris, representing persons other than the Town Council interested in the preservation of the Auld Brig, attended the meeting.

1. Mr Oswald is, as soon as possible after the General Election is over, to convene a public meeting in Ayr, when resolutions will be submitted and a Committee appointed to take all steps considered expedient to obtain subscriptions for executing the works necessary for the preservation of the bridge.

2. Should the Committee, not later than *1st August next, succeed in raising the funds required for the work (which it is presently assumed may cost about £10,000), the Town Council will allow the Committee to carry out the necessary preservative works on the bridge, at the sight and to the satisfaction of an engineer of eminence to be selected by the Committee.

3. The work will be proceeded with without delay so soon as the necessary funds are raised, and the whole work is to be finished not later than 1st August, 1908, when, or at the completion of the work if of earlier date, the Committee will cease to have any further connection with the bridge, the Town Council thereafter resuming full control over it.

4. Should the Committee find it necessary to rebuild any portion of the bridge, they shall submit plans and specifications of same to the Town Council, along with offers for the execution of the work, and if the Council approve of same, they will bear the cost of such rebuilding out of the Templeton Bequest Funds. Should the Town Council consider it necessary that a temporary wooden bridge be erected while the structure is being repaired or rebuilt, they shall be at the expense of erecting and maintaining it.

5. Such portion of the Templeton Funds as meantime may not be required for such partial rebuilding of the bridge shall be held by the Town Council in terms of the Bequest to them, subject to such alterations thereon as they may from time to time obtain legal sanction to make.

6. The plans and specifications of the whole works to be executed by the Committee shall be submitted to the Burgh Surveyor that he may assure the Town Council that the proposed works will make the bridge secure for public traffic for the future, and until this assurance is given the work shall not be proceeded with. The Surveyor shall not be entitled to object to the said plans and specifications on any ground other than the safety of the public.

7. The Committee before proceeding with the work shall, so far as necessary, apply to the Harbour Trust, the Board of Trade, and the Dean of Guild Court, and all others whose interests may be affected, for any warrants or authority that may be required, and for these purposes they may use the name of the Provost, Magistrates, and Councillors of the Burgh.

8. Should the Committee fail to raise subscriptions, or damage or destroy the bridge during preservative or rebuilding operations, no liability of any kind is to rest upon them in respect of such damage or destruction.

* This date was subsequently altered to the 1st October.

Public Meeting.

A public meeting took place in the Town Hall, Ayr, on Tuesday, 25th September. The Right Hon. the Earl of Glasgow, K.C., M G., occupied the chair, and an inspiriting address was delivered by the Right Hon. the Earl of Rosebery, K.G., K.T. The Ayr Burgh Choir gave an excellent concert of Burns songs, at which Mr Frederic Ely, Mus. Bac., Lond., wielded the baton in his usual efficient manner; while Mr George H. Ely, B.A., Lond., ably presided at the organ. The following was the programme submitted:—Organ solo, Fantasia on Scotch airs (Dr Peace); part songs—"There was a lad was born in Kyle," "Scots wha hae," "Wilt thou be my dearie?" "A man's a man," "John Anderson," "Duncan Gray," "Ye banks and braes." Statement by Mr R. A. Oswald, Esq. of Auchincruive, convener of the county. Motion by J. G. A. Baird, Esq. of Wellwood, as to preservation of the Auld Brig, appointment of and remit to a General Committee; seconded by W. P. Beale, Esq. of Drumlamford, M.P. for South Ayrshire. Motion by Rev. Thomas Dykes, D.D., Ayr, to confirm agreement with Town Council, and discharging former committee; seconded by Wm. Wallace, LL.D., editor *Glasgow Herald*. Motion by Walter Neilson, Esq. of Ewenfield, vice-president Ayr Burns Club, appealing to Town Council to extend time necessary for raising funds; seconded by Duncan M'Naught, Esq., J.P., Kilmarnock Burns Federation. Motion by W. H Dunlop, Esq. of Doonside, honorary secretary to trustees of Burns Cottage and Monument at Alloway, inviting Scottish and other Societies throughout the British Empire and the United States of America to support the efforts of the Committee; seconded by Hon. Hew Dalrymple. Vote of thanks to Lord Rosebery, moved by George Younger, Esq. of Valleyfield, M.P. for Ayr Burghs. Vote of thanks to chairman by Sheriff Shairp. "Auld Lang Syne."

Lord Rosebery and the Auld Brig.

The Right Hon. the Earl of Rosebery, K.G., K.T., on Tuesday afternoon, the 25th September, fulfilled his engagement to speak at a public meeting in Ayr, in furtherance of the efforts being made to raise funds for the preservation of the Auld Brig o' Ayr. The right hon. gentleman had arrived in the district the previous day, and was the guest of the convener of the county, Mr R. A. Oswald of Auchincruive.

The meeting, which had created widespread interest, was held in the Town Hall, and admission was by ticket. To the gallery charges of five shillings and three shillings were made; tickets for early admission to the area were issued at a shilling each, and there had also been issued a number of free tickets for any remaining available space. The "available space" for free ticket-holders, as it turned out, amounted to only standing room, and even then many hundreds of people could not gain admission. The proceedings were timed to commence at half-past six, but an hour earlier the whole of the sitting accommodation was occupied by those who had paid for admission. The demand for tickets had come from a wide area, and the audience was in a large measure representative of Burns Clubs throughout the West of Scotland.

The time of waiting on the part of the audience was agreeably passed in

listening to an excellent programme of music discoursed by the Ayr Burgh Choir, under the leadership of Mr Frederick Ely, Mus. Bac., Lond., with Mr George H. Ely, B.A., Lon., presiding at the organ. The part songs rendered by the choir were "There was a lad was born in Kyle," "Scots Wha Hae," "Wilt thou be my dearie?" "A man's a man," "John Anderson," "Duncan Gray," and "Ye banks and braes." The audience showed marked appreciation of the pleasant musical programme provided.

A distinguished company appeared on the platform with Lord Rosebery, who was loudly cheered as he entered the hall with the Earl of Glasgow, the chairman of the meeting. On the platform were also the Marquis of Ailsa, Mr R. A. Oswald; Mr George Younger, M.P. for Ayr Burghs; Colonel Baird; Mr W. H. Dunlop, hon. secretary Burns Cottage and Monument Trustees; Mr T. G. Arthur, Mr James Kennedy, the Hon. Hew Dalrymple; Mr W. P. Beale, M.P. for South Ayrshire; Captain Sneddon, Mr Walter Neilson, Mr Wm. Wallace, I.L.D.; Sir E. Tennant, Bart.; Sheriff Shairp, Mr D. M'Naught, Rev. Dr Dykes, Mr R. Angus, Mr J. A. Morris, Mr J. C. Highet, Mr Marcus Bain, Mr Wm. Wilson, Major Julian Oswald; Mr Eugene Wason, M.P.; Mr James Arthur, Mr R. F. M'Ewen; Col. W. K. Hamilton Campbell, D.S.O.; Rev. J. C. Higgins, Mr H. R. Wallace, Mr Adam Wood, Col. H. A. Vincent, Councillor James Gould, Councillor Donald M'Donald, Councillor C. H. Millyard, Bailie Richmond, Councillor Miller, Councilior Speir, Bailie Niven, ex-Provost M'Creath, Mr T. W. M'Intyre, Rev. Canon Collins, Mr J. C. Kennedy, Captain Houldsworth, Mr P. W. Campbell, Mr Learmont Drysdale, Mr Jeffrey Hunter, Mr Joseph Martin, Mr Alex. Pollock, Rev. J. V. Hammond, ex-Provost Ferguson, Mr David Murray, B.A.; Mr D. Duff, secretary Ayr Burns Club; Mr J. Harling Turner, Mr J. Neish, Mr W. Robertson, Mr Alex. Johnstone, Mr H. S. M Young, Mr P. Fraser MacKenna, ex-Provost Templeton, Rev. Wm. Rainie; Mr Wm. Maybin, M.A.; Mr Geo. Bain, Dr Brown, Mr Robert Grieve, Captain Foster, Mr F. E. Villiers, Dr M'Kerrow, Mr A. B. MacCallum; Dr M'Queen, Preses Cumnock Burns Club; Mr J. A. Clarke, Mr Wm. Dunlop; Rev. Prebendary Villiers, St. Paul's; Mr A. H. Dunlop; Mr John Norval Murray, secretary Irvine Burns Club; Mr Hugh M'Nab, ex-Provost Willock, Treasurer Tait, Mr J. C. Montgomerie, Mr E. Smith, Mr A. C. Anderson, Mr Walter Bain, Mr D. D. Whigham, Mr Thomas Duncan, Mr W. Miller, Rev. Dr Turnbull, Mr A. Smith, Mr John C. Hay, Mr Thos. Turner, Mr A. B. Todd, Mr J. Strain, Dr Watt, Provost Richmond, Mr T. C. Dunlop, Mr A. Stevenson, Mr Colin C. M'Culloch, Mr J. B. Morrison, Mr W. G. Wallace; Mr Robert Miller, Prestwick Burns Club; Mr John Russell, Maybole Burns Club; Mr J. P. Ballantyne, Provost Muir, Annan; Provost Steedman, Prestwick; Provost Allan, Galston; Mr Robert Adam, Rev. Dr M'Crie, Alex. M'Lennan; Provost Borland, Irvine; Mr A. H. Lang, Mr J. W. Galloway, Rev. H. Fairlie, Provost Telfer, Mr James Dobbie, Mr James Lochead, Mr Philip Sulley, Mr F. B. Stuart; ex-Provost Longmuir, Irvine; Mr James Middleton, Mr George Dunlop, Mr Joseph Patrick, Mr A. J. Simpson, Mr James Herbertson, Mr W. Cochrane, Mr Andrew Cameron, ex-Provost Murchland, Irvine; Captain M'Hardy, R.N.; Mr Wm. Gibson, Kilmarnock; Mr J. P. Walker, Provost Jas. Pollock; Mr Jos. Brockie, J.P.;

Mr H. G. M'Creath, Mr Alex. Loban, Mr H. A. Stevens, Mr Ludovic M. Mann, Dr Wilson, Mr A. Gavin, Mr James Johnstone, Captain Young, Mr Robert Wallace, Mr David Wallace, Mr C. E. Whitlaw, Mr J. C. Smith, Mr W. C. Gray, Mr George A. Murray, Mr J. D. M'Arthur, Mr W. Paterson, Mr Peter Duncan, Mr John Barr, Mr Charles Smith, Mr J. Ballantyne, Mr John Brown, Glasgow: Mr Peter Smith, jun., Glasgow; Provost Harvey, Ardrossan; Rev. John Miller; and the secretaries, Mr D. W. Shaw and Mr Robert Welsh.

Apologies were received from the following amongst others:—Lord Eglinton, Lord Bute; Sir James Coats, Bart.; Lord Provost of Glasgow, Lord Provost of Edinburgh; Prof. Cooper, The College, Glasgow; Hon. G. R. Vernon, Mr Hickson Fergusson, Mr J. M. Houldsworth, Mr J. H. Houldsworth, Mr W. Baird, Dr Gourlay; Mr Alex. Cross, Langbank; Provost Hood, Kilmarnock; Mr W. Weir, Mr J. F. Dalrymple Hay, Colonel Pollok-Morris; Hew Morrison, LL.D., Edinburgh; Dean of Guild Fraser, Ayr; Hon. H. F. H. Elliot of Corwar; Mr George Davidson, Mr W. A. Baird; Mr Francis Fox, C.E., London; Mr John Birkmyre, Sir James Fergusson, Bart., Rev. S. M. Dill, Lord Overton; Mr J. D. G. Dalrymple, Stirling, Preses Glasgow Archæological Society; Mr W. A. Coats, Mr Arch. Coats, Sir James Knox, Sheriff Brand, Lord Provost of Perth; Mr Thomas Harvey, Mauchline; Lord Stair, Lord Cassillis, Mr Stewart Clark; Lord Provost Longair, Dundee; Dr David Murray, Glasgow; Sir Andrew Lawrie, Stirling; Rev. Dr M'Adam Muir; Sir Charles Dalrymple, Bart. of Newhailes; Sir Arthur Mitchell, Sir Matthew Arthur, Bart., the Bishop of Glasgow, Sir James Sievright; Provost Glover, Dumfries; Mr A. Arthur, Lainshaw; Sir John Stirling Maxwell, Bart., Pollok; Mr J. B. Thorneycroft; Sir Wm. Houldsworth, Bart.; Lord Provost of Aberdeen; Mr Joseph Pennell, London; Mr J. T. Black, Mr A. Cameron Corbett, M.P., Mr P. J. Mackie of Corraith, Col. Houison Crauford, Mr S. H. Montgomerie of Southannan, Hon. North Dalrymple Hamilton, Mr F. Glen M'Andrew, Mr Douglas A. S. Cunningham, Col. Blair of Blair, Col. Denny, Mr W. D. Russell of Maulside, Lord Balcarres, Sir Thomas Glen Coats, Bart., Lord Hardwicke, Sir Herbert Maxwell, Bart.; Mr Thomas Carter, Preses Berwick-on-Tweed Burns Club.

The Marquis of Ailsa said he had much pleasure in moving that the Right Hon. the Earl of Glasgow take the chair.

Lord Glasgow's Remarks

The Earl of Glasgow said—My Lords, Ladies and Gentlemen,—I beg to thank you for having distinguished me as you have done in asking me to preside over this large and influential meeting. To judge by my own feelings we are all here in deadly earnest. We have come to do our best to keep that ancient bridge of which we are all so fond and so proud on its feet without being rebuilt—(cheers)—and I trust most sincerely that the result of this meeting will have that effect. I feel that it would be right for me for many reasons to be very brief, partly because other speakers are going to say all I would like to say myself, and partly because I think it is the duty of a chairman to show an example of brevity. But I would like to repeat what I have already said,

that we are proud of that old bridge which has been in the recollection of all of us and of our forefathers for so many hundred years ; that bridge which has seen, no doubt, many scenes of interest in times past, if we only knew them ; that bridge which has been written of—I tried to get on without speaking of Robert Burns, but it is no use—that bridge which has been written of in such stirring language by our national poet. Ladies and gentlemen, there is a great deal to be said to-night, and the sooner we begin it the better. Therefore, without any further preface I shall begin the business. But before I sit down I will ask you all to be kind enough to send whatever sums or subscriptions you feel inclined to give to Mr Pollock, the agent of the Bank of Scotland in Ayr. I hope your subscriptions will be large—in fact, you may subscribe early and often. I will now call on Mr Oswald of Auchincruive, convener of the county, who, as you know, has taken so much interest in this affair, to make a statement.

Statement by Mr Oswald.

Mr R. A. Oswald—My Lords, Ladies and Gentlemen,—In the statement which I am desired by the Voluntary Committee to make, detailing what we have already been able to accomplish towards the preservation of the Auld Brig o' Ayr, and what are our expectations for the future, I would at once say that the prospect of preserving the Auld Brig in its ancient entirety and completeness is very hopeful indeed. From nearly every quarter, at home and abroad, from the Press and the public, from friends everywhere we have met with sympathetic and generous encouragement. I need scarcely review, except in the briefest outline, the history of the movement. Since 1903 Mr Morris has been telling whoever would listen of the importance and value of the brig, not only because of its unrivalled poetic associations, but also of its great archæological value. But here, my Lords, ladies and gentlemen, I feel I should like to refer to the excellent work Mr Morris has done. But for him I have no hesitation in saying the Auld Brig would now be a "shapeless cairn ;" his energy and determination have indeed done much to save our old friend. He has never wavered one moment for the last three years, and when, to my shame, I abandoned the pursuit of my noble friend, Lord Rosebery, Mr Morris declined to be beat, and it is to his indomitable perseverance that we are able to welcome his Lordship here this evening. Mr Morris richly deserves the thanks of this great meeting. (Cheers.) We greatly desire that the brig should be preserved, because it is a genuine and mainly unspoilt archæological and national monument, fortunately free in large part from the sometimes ruthless hand of the restorer, and therefore of a unique and distinct value. It is partly because of this, but also because it is the last remaining of the "Twa Brigs." To Lord Rosebery we are indebted for having first given the needs of the brig prominent place. Early last year Lord Rosebery directed my attention to the matter, with the result that his Lordship's convincing and pregnant letter saved the situation. In these days the fate of the brig hung in the balance. The Town Council of Ayr (with whose difficulties we have entire and complete sympathy) were then having plans prepared for the renewal and rebuilding of the brig ; and, as Lord Rosebery convincingly and trenchantly said in his letter, "It is very likely true that the bridge has been condemned, but in these days the resources of engineering are immense, and

equal, I cannot doubt, to preserve the structure which is almost sacred. What the Town Council require is not a competent engineer to condemn but a competent engineer to preserve, and I cannot believe that such a man cannot be found. Unless the world can be convinced that by no means is preservation possible, it will judge destruction with unanimous condemnation. For this is not a matter for Scotland alone. The worship of Burns has extended to all lands. No one knows better than yourself how great is the troop of idolaters that visit Burns land from every part of the universe. I am sure the Town Council of Ayr is loyally conscious of all this, but I do not feel sure that they have exhausted the resources of civilisation to preserve the bridge, and so I would urge you to respectfully press upon them in the name of Burns and its traditions not to contemplate reconstruction, until preservation is proved to be impossible." I sent that letter to Provost Allan, with the result that the Town Council most kindly, and, I think, most wisely held the resolution to destroy the bridge in abeyance ; and while its hands were stayed, and to some extent tied, by the terms of the Templeton Bequest, as interpreted to them, the Town Council yet expressed its willingness to afford the public the opportunity of taking the place from which they were themselves debarred—leaving it to the public to demonstrate, firstly, the practicability of the preservation of the bridge ; and secondly, the raising of the required funds. This resolution the Town Council formally communicated to ex-Provost Mackay (president of the Burns Federation, to Mr Morris, and to myself), and so was formed the nucleus of the Voluntary Committee. Engineers of eminence—Mr Fox, Mr John Strain, Mr John Carruthers, and others—voluntarily, or at the request of the Committee, visited the bridge, and submitted schemes demonstrating the practicability of its preservation ; and following the careful consideration of these schemes, the Town Council adjusted the agreement with the Committee upon which all subsequent work has been founded. That agreement has been published, and in my opinion it is a most fair and equitable agreement, and I wish to take this, the first public opportunity which I have had of thanking Provost Allan and the Town Council of Ayr for the frank and generous manner in which they received alike ourselves and our suggestions. (Cheers.) Few of us at the time anticipated the delays which must of necessity occur, if the effort was to be successfully accomplished. The Town Council have already granted us an extension of the time clause, and I am sure, with their friendly consideration, they will extend this for a further period. Our business to-day is to constitute, at this great and influential meeting, aided by Lord Rosebery's presence and eloquence, the authoritative commencement of the work of raising the £10,000 required. I am happy to say I have in hand some £4800. (Loud cheers.) We wished to come to the meeting to-day and say :—" Ladies and gentlemen, we have raised privately one-half of the sum required, and we appeal with confidence to the public and the Scottish and Burns admirers for the balance." We have already in hand, however, a sufficiently large sum upon which to found our appeal, and so have laid our foundation ; or, if you would allow me to change the metaphor, we have launched our good ship ; and I am sure we all from our hearts wish her God-speed upon her voyage, alike to near and far-away lands. (Cheers.) We can do little work upon the bridge during the winter months—we can only mature our plans, carry through the formal

business still requiring to be done, and appeal from this meeting to our friends at home and abroad for the assistance we feel sure they will readily accord. My Committee have asked me to read the names of present subscribers to our fund, and I have much pleasure in doing so. In the first place, I have to offer the warmest thanks to Sir James Coats of Auchendrane, who started my subscription list with £500. (Cheers.) I have also to accord warmest thanks to the Marquis of Bute, who promptly followed with exactly the same sum. (Cheers.) The others are as follow:—The Earl of Eglinton and Winton, £25; The Marquess of Ailsa, Culzean Castle, Maybole, £20; The Earl of Stair, Lochinch, Castle Kennedy, £25; The Duke of Portland, Langwell, Berridale, £100; Sir Wm. Houldsworth, Coodham, Kilmarnock, £100; The Earl of Rosebery, £100; R. A. Oswald of Auchincruive, £100; Archibald Coats, Woodside, Paisley, £200; W. Weir of Adamton, Monkton, £250; Sir E. Tennant, Bart., The Kirkhouse, Innerleithen, £250; Sir James Bell, Bart. of Montgreenan, £50; George Younger, M.P., of Valleyfield, £50; J. Strain, Cassillis, Maybole, £50; W. P. Beale, M.P., of Drumlamford, £50; H. R. Wallace, of Busbie, Cranston Lodge, Ayr, £25; Sir Matthew Arthur, Fullarton, Troon, £100; J. H. Houldsworth, Rozelle, Ayr, £100; J. B. Thornycroft, Netherplace, Mauchline, £100; W. Baird, of Elie, Fife, £100; Robert Angus, of Ladykirk, Monkton, £150; The Hon. Dalrymple Hamilton, Bargany, Dailly, £25; R. Dalgleish, Ashfordly Place, Melton Mowbray £25; Walter Neilson, of Ewenfield, £25; Sir James Knox, Kilbirnie, £20; Lord Howard de Walden, Audley End, Saffron Walden, £100; J. M. Houldsworth, Brougham Place, Ayr, £100; Sir Thomas Glen Coats, Ferguslie Park, Paisley, £100; James Kennedy of Doonholm, Ayr, £50; W. H. Dunlop of Doonside, Ayr, £50; James Coats, jun., Ferguslie, Paisley, £60; T. G. Arthur, Carrick House, Ayr, £50; J. Arthur, Montgomerie, Tarbolton, £100; F. G. MacAndrew, Knock Castle, £100; George Coats, of Belleisle, Ayr, £50; T. W. MacIntyre, Kirkmichael House, £100; W. Hall Walker, Gatacre Grange, Liverpool, £100; R. F. M'Ewen, Bardrochat, Colmonell, £100; W. Wilson, Castlehill, Ayr, £25; J. C. Cunningham, of Craigends, Johnstone, £25; A. Arthur, Lainshaw, Stewarton, £50; Adam Wood, Troon, £50; Miss Leck, Hollybush, £20; J. G. A. Baird, of Wellwood, Muirkirk, £20; Mrs Blair, Blair, Dalry, £20; Alex Cross, Knockdon, £25; Col. Blair of Blair, Dalry, £20; W. A. Baird, Erskine, Bishopton, £20; P. W. Campbell, Edinburgh, £20; Lord Hamilton, of Dalziel, £20; Hon. Hew Dalrymple, Castle Kennedy, £20; Messrs Finlay & Son, Glasgow, £10 10s; C. R. Paterson, Kirkmichael House, Amisfield; Dumfriesshire, £10; N. Kennedy Cochran Patrick, Woodside, Beith, £5; Col and Mrs Pollok-Morris, of Craig, £15; Mrs Dubs, of Cloncaird, £5 5s; Dr Oliver, £5 5s; Sir Charles Dalrymple, Newhailes, £5; William Dunlop, Kensal Tower, Ayr, £5 5s; Tam o' Shanter Burns Club, Ayr, £5; Leith Burns Club, £5 5s; Irvine Burns Club, £40; Kilmarnock Burns Club, about £50; Ayr Burns Club, £10 (and also a levy on members); Maybole Burns Club, £5; Miss Finnie, £10; Linlithgow Burns Club, £5 5s; Pollokshaws Burns Club, £5. The Burns Clubs are aiding us in a noble manner, and of those which have already offered help are the Ayr, Kilmarnock, Irvine, Dumfries, Greenock, Maybole, Linlithgow, and Ayr Tam o' Shanter; while the United Burns Clubs of Glasgow are aiding most materially in the

movement, and affording a much-valued assistance. It is proposed by the Burns Federation, and suggested to all Burns Clubs and other kindred societies, to carry out a series of concerts in aid of the brig fund during the winter months. The Ayr Choral Union led the way last night by an excellent concert. The United Burns Clubs have also the matter in hand, and on Thursday, in Glasgow, Mr Learmont Drysdale is himself conducting a great Burns Concert in St. Andrews Halls, which it will be worth going from Ayr to hear. Mr Drysdale on his own responsibility engaged St. Andrews Hall as soon as he heard of the scheme, and we owe him many thanks, and heartily wish him success. You have listened to the music of the Ayr Burgh Choir this afternoon, and we hope to hear them at a concert they propose to give at a later day on behalf of the brig. The theatres are following suit, and when the Brig Fund performance is given in Ayr we would bespeak a bumper house. Reverting for a moment to the earlier days of this movement, I should like to thank Mr Thackeray Turner, with whom I have had several meetings, and the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings, for efficient and generous aid. It must not be forgotten that, however some of us are led by interest in Burns's Twa Brigs, the Auld Brig has a high archæological value, and is indeed an ancient monument. The Society for Protection of Ancient Buildings submitted two reports from Mr Carruthers upon the bridge, and Mr John W. Melville, nearer home, has been of much assistance. On all hands we have received help and encouragement, and I feel certain that this great and enthusiastic meeting is a sure indication that the wave has not exhausted itself—that it is indeed only forming, and that when it rises in its strength and passes onward it will reach unspent the furthest shores of the Empire. We welcome, and we ask aid from all desirous of giving help. The traders and the shopkeepers of Ayr have, under the presidency of Mr J. C. Highet, Deacon Convener of the Trades House, formed a Committee for the town. To them, and to the banks, to all recognised societies everywhere who wish to assist, we shall gladly send subscription sheets; and, as there is no authentic record of all the Burns Clubs at home and abroad, we shall be much indebted to those who may be kind enough to send a list of such clubs from their own neighbourhood. My Lords, ladies and gentlemen, I fear I have detained you very long, but it was, I think, requisite that I should say what I have said. I cannot sit down without offering my warmest thanks to Lord Rosebery for coming here to-night. He has come here at very great inconvenience; he has to be in London to-morrow morning; and I am sure you will all give him a very hearty welcome and cheer him to the echo when he has finished his speech.

The Chairman—And now, my Lords, ladies and gentlemen, the most agreeable duty of the evening falls to me as your chairman. I have to echo the thanks already given by Mr Oswald to Lord Rosebery for his kindness in coming so far to address us on this occasion. We know the interest he has taken in this business from the first—you have heard that from Mr Oswald; and with all his private affairs and public interests, it is exceedingly kind of Lord Rosebery to have come here to-night to address us on this occasion. I can only say that I hope the interesting speech which we are certain to get from him will have the effect of stirring up the people of the West of Scotland to do their best for the bridge.

Lord Rosebery's Speech.

Lord Rosebery, who was received with great enthusiasm and the singing of "He's a jolly good fellow," said :—I am grateful to you for the enthusiasm with which you have received me, but even that does not answer the question which I have been constantly asking myself ever since I arrived in Ayr ; which is, Why am I here at all? I have no connection with Ayrshire. I have said all that I had to say in a letter, which has been already read to the meeting. Whatever else I may have thought of saying has been still better said by Mr Oswald in his statement, and therefore I cannot but regard myself as a mere superfluity, rooted up from his own home soil to be transplanted, and possibly to wither, here. Really, I must say this for the idolators and enthusiasts of Burns, that they are a very exacting and tyrannical race. I hear much gratitude expressed to Mr Morris. I owe him no gratitude. I had stoutly refused to make a speech, and Mr Morris, though I was in the south of England, prodded me and left me no peace, until I was compelled to give him the promise he wished. Well, sir, I should not so much mind that if it were not that my appearance here to-night almost compels me to break two solemn vows. One of those vows was never to say another word about Burns in public. I have unveiled so many statues of that poet, I have been present at so many celebrations, that I think I was justified in that vow of abstention for the rest of my life. Well, if I break that vow to-night—and I hope I shall not—the guilt of my perjury shall rest on your heads, and not on mine. More especially if it is to blight anyone, I trust that the curse will fall on the head of Mr Morris. Now, I took that vow about Burns not merely because of my own experience that I have alluded to, but because of the fact that there is nothing new to say about Burns at all. All that has been exhausted at Burns dinners and Burns celebrations, which are held with such uncommon frequency all over the world. It is no disparagement to Burns to say that there is nothing new to be said about him. Suppose after the death of Homer—if Homer ever did die, or did live—suppose that after the death of Homer, his admirers had agreed to hold a dinner on

his birthday in succeeding years, I think that by this time all that could have been said about Homer would long ago have been exhausted. But although Burns is much more near our time than the Grecian bard, yet those dinners have been held so universally and so frequently—I suppose there are hundreds held on his birthday all over the world—that I do not think it is possible for anyone to say anything original or worth hearing about him. Well, that is the justification of my vow, and that vow I hope to keep to-night. But, gentlemen, the purpose of our meeting to-night is not to discuss about the merits of Burns, but about a very practical proposal to honour Burns's memory, by preserving one of the monuments that he has consecrated by his poetry. Now, with regard to that, I should like to say one thing, and to give honour where it is due. If this monument is preserved—and I do not doubt it for a moment—that will be largely, almost mainly, due to the exertions of Mr Oswald of Auchincruive. He has been indefatigable, and I have been a witness of some of his achievements. He has hunted the subscriber high and low, and only to-night you have heard him read out his bag, not without complacency. I have seen him mix business with pleasure in a way perhaps unexampled. I have seen him on the racecourse at Ascot follow an opulent but retiring baronet into the recesses of the grand stand, and although I am not sure that even Mr Oswald succeeded in extracting an adequate tribute from the gentleman in question, I am quite sure he left no means untried. I trust that if the baronet to whom I allude does me the honour to read my remarks he will even at this late hour send us some conscience money. I have mentioned this as an instance to show how Mr Oswald would not neglect the right moment even in scenes of pleasure and excitement, and if I had the distribution of honours —but, fortunately, I have not—he certainly would be made a Peer, with the Burns title of Lord Kirkoswald. All that, however, is beside the point. What we have to consider to-night is how we are to preserve the Auld Brig of Ayr. Now, the question of the preservation of ancient monuments is not one to which any hard and fast principle can be applied. I suppose the man or

woman with the historic sense would like to preserve everything in the slightest degree characteristic of the past ages of our country. For example, we should like to see the London of Chaucer, or the London of "The Fortunes of Nigel," or even the London of Queen Anne, had it been possible to preserve the city in that condition I don't suppose we should wish very much to see the Ayr of Wallace, because that might not be particularly flattering to our national self-complacency. But to turn to our own capital, should we not all desire to see Edinburgh before the New Town was thought of, when it mainly consisted of one fierce street, reaching from Holyrood to the Castle, flanked by unnumbered recesses, from which at any moment might appear lawless mobs, or dainty duchesses tripping to their balls? Should we not, indeed, if we might go further back in history, desire to see all the great scenes of the world in their full glory and splendour—the glories of Babylon, the glories of Nineveh, of Constantinople, of Athens, and Rome at their best? Had it been possible to preserve all these historical shrines, how gladly would we visit them now! When we see the crowds that visit one obscure watering-place on the slopes of Vesuvius, we can imagine the emotion with which the present generation would consecrate and preserve the greater ruins of antiquity which have passed away for ever. But all these are dreams. We cannot realise them. We could never realise them. Man will fight, and wars have destroyed much of the building of history. There are fires, fires that have been healthy fires, where the old towns that were there were built of wood. There has been pestilence, which has desolated many a fair site. I myself have seen, in what seem the primeval forests of Goa, two or three great cathedrals standing alone in the jungle, tenanted only by a few pale and shuddering monks, cathedrals that would have held thousands of inhabitants that once lived round them, but who were killed or driven away by the fevers inherent in those parts. I give that as an instance of what may have devastated, and has devastated, some of the choicest cities of which we have knowledge in history. Pestilence

we may hope to exclude. Wars, I believe, we are about, by a conference in the Low Countries, to put an end to for ever. But time and the barbarians we have always with us. We cannot fight against time and the other element to which I have alluded. They are always ready to assail the monuments of the past. When I speak of barbarians I do not want my words misinterpreted, to apply them in any sense to the Town Council of Ayr. I know how tortuous and mischievous critics are, and I think it right to utter that protest, because I believe the Town Council, wherever they have seen the chance of preserving the Old Bridge, have earnestly grasped it. On the other hand, I am not quite sure that we do not owe a certain debt of gratitude to the barbarians of the past, because they have got rid of a great many buildings which if they existed now we should not have had the heart to get rid of, and perhaps it is well they disappeared. I regard the barbarians of the past very much as a landlord looks on his forester when the landlord has not been able to nerve himself to cut down a fine tree, and the forester decides the question for him by cutting it down behind his back. I cannot help thinking that if we had preserved all the memorials that we in this age of preservation should be inclined to keep, we should find ourselves in a position of very great inconvenience from which the vandals of the past had delivered us. Suppose, for example, the London of Chaucer were still in existence. There would be built round it an enormous city, numbering amongst its inhabitants millions of human beings to whom the London of Chaucer would be an object of interest, but also a subject of very considerable inconvenience. They would find themselves obliged, as we were obliged two years ago, to appoint a Royal Commission on the communications of London; and the first article in that Royal Commission report would be to desire that the London of Chaucer should be altogether and radically swept away, in order to enable the greater and newer London to communicate with each other. Well, that would have been an agonising choice to have to face, and I am glad on the whole that we with our tender susceptibilities are not face to face with any such choice as that.

Take, again, old London Bridge. I do not know if you have ever seen pictures of old London Bridge. It was an old historical bridge, covered with houses and shops, and even had a church upon it. The shops were not a fancy fair. They were real shops. I have somewhere a silver cup and clock and a book which were all produced on old London Bridge. Now, if old London Bridge were standing in the midst of the great Metropolis of the Empire no one would allow it to be demolished. They would rather build two bridges on each side of it to carry the traffic than demolish the old London Bridge. This seems very apposite to our subject to-night, and yet I suppose that if old London Bridge were in existence it would be an obstacle to the traffic. We should have to pull it down, if only to allow transit room to the rich freights carried in the steamboats of the London County Council. Now, ladies and gentlemen, I am arguing against myself. I am arguing, as it would appear, rather in favour of the destruction of old monuments. That is very far from my feeling or my wish. I am afraid, if I had my way, the preservation of ancient monuments would be carried much further than it is. I am quite glad that others have the heart to destroy the inconveniences that I should wish to preserve: but there is the great deity of civilisation which insists on these sacrifices—civilisation with her attendant deities—commerce, communication, comfort, convenience—all these demand the gradual eradication of almost all that is past which is not absolutely historical and venerable. I suppose if we kept all that is historical that we wish to keep there would not be an adequate street in any old town. I suppose that if we could keep all that we wished to keep there would not be a habitable house in any old town, and so we must steel ourselves to the necessary. And when you come to think of all that was beautiful in the world which has disappeared, we must feel that there is singularly little left for us to preserve. Now, gentlemen, how does this apply to our discussion to-night? I am happy to say that it has no application whatever. (Laughter.) I have only been thinking aloud to keep off the topic of Burns. (Laughter.) If I had been obliged to keep to my subject I should

have found myself involved in perjury at once, and therefore I have treated you to what is an arid disquisition on the true principle of the preservation of historic monuments. That principle is that all should be preserved that is really historical where it does not hopelessly conflict with the exigencies of civilisation. But, ladies and gentlemen, the Ayr Auld Brig is subject to none of these disqualifications. It is not pretended for a moment that it conflicts with any modern convenience. It is an excellent bridge for pedestrians. I tested it myself to-day—(cheers)—and it carried me quite safely. It is of itself a monument of historical and hoary antiquity, not so old as extravagant eulogists would say, but quite as old as to make it respectable from the point of view of antiquity alone. Then, it has been consecrated by the greatest of all Scotland's poets. There is not much remaining he has consecrated in that way except the vast scenes of Nature. But we have, at anyrate, the Auld Brig, and I think we are bound to preserve it. (Loud cheers.) The whole question, as has been exposed in the luminous report of Mr Oswald, is a mere question of cash—it is a mere question of funds—and therefore I do not doubt that when the situation is understood by those classes of the inhabitants of the world whom it mainly affects, that funds will be easily forthcoming. Now, sir, in the first place, the responsibility lies on Ayrshire. (Applause.) I do not wish to harp too much on that point. I do not wish to exact a sort of blood-money or ransom from the quiet and peaceful county of Ayr. But Ayrshire must remember that out of thirty-seven years of his life, Burns, I think, spent twenty-seven in Ayrshire, and Ayrshire is therefore the consecrated region of the poet, and bears a special responsibility in connection with his memory. I am not sure that I should say all this in Dumfries, and I trust what I have said will not chill the energies or the liberality of Dumfries. But, at anyrate, the indisputable fact remains, that for more than five-sevenths of his life Burns lived in Ayrshire. To pass from Ayrshire, then the responsibility rests upon the people of Scotland. Now, sir, there, I take it, the responsibility cannot be put too strongly. Burns owes little to Scotland in the

way of money. Scotland owes a great deal of money to Burns. I wonder how many of the innumerable pilgrims who come to Scotland from the great Republic of the West come there in the main urged and driven by an anxiety to realise the poems of Burns on the spot. That, to put it at its lowest, is a cash value which Scotland cannot neglect. But there is a higher interest that Scotland has in the matter than this. She values two immortal reputations which have consecrated her soil in a single century—Robert Burns and Walter Scott. I do not think it can be doubted that to the heart of Scotland Robert Burns lies even nearer than Walter Scott. I do not believe it possible that Scotland, when awake to the danger, will allow the Auld Brig of Ayr—which was so exquisitely sung by Burns in his prime of life—that Scotland will allow the bridge for which he pleaded to be wiped out of existence in this twentieth century of ours. If so, all I can say is this, that while with Burns will remain the glory of the poem and the plea, with Scotland will remain the ineradicable shame of having disregarded them. But, sir, we may make a wider appeal than either to Ayrshire or to Scotland. We may make an appeal to all those worshippers of Burns who assemble in such numbers every year on his birthday, or, without assembling on his birthday, almost worship his memory and his poems—a class unlimited in number and spread all over the world. Sir, if every man who has attended a Burns dinner and shed tears for the memory of Burns, and made speeches about Burns, and recited poems about Burns, and drunk whisky in honour of Burns—if every one of these now living in the world was to send a shilling or even sixpence, why your coffers would be overflowing, and you would have to gild the Auld Brig in order to expend your funds. Are we really to believe that these Burns jubilees, of which we have had two; that these annual Burns dinners at which there are such recitations, and orations, and libations—(laughter)—such unbounded enthusiasm, such breakings of the voice at the bare mention of the distresses of the poet; are we to suppose that all these are shams, and that when a definite opportunity offers of reducing these professions to practice, the

little money required remains in the breeches pocket of those worshippers? I say that, if this be possible, if it be conceivable that the Auld Brig should perish for want of funds, one result must necessarily follow—that the Burns dinners must also cease, for every Gentile and every scoffer—and there are scoffers and there are Gentiles—would have too much reason behind their sneers when they saw how empty was all this adoration. And now I should like to make an appeal to a wider audience yet. I would appeal to those who honour the essential dignity of manual labour. It is perhaps the fashion in these days not rightly to honour that form of toil; but no man who considers the life of Burns, and who works with his hands, can fail to feel that his calling is raised and honoured by the immortal husbandman, who was also a poet. (Cheers.) The other day I passed through that beautiful district of Scotland which ranges from Edinburgh to Peebles, and from Peebles to Galashiels, and Selkirk, and so on to Hawick and Langholm. There art and nature have almost equally divided a region which is exquisitely beautiful in itself, for while art has filled many of the valleys with the teeming hives of industry, and the mills which provide so much employment for so many industrious artisans, the silent hills are left to be garrisoned by the lonely shepherd. There the shepherd lives in communion with nature, and when he emerges from his solitude, he sometimes seems as if in that communion he had solved the problems and absorbed the beauties of life. And so it was with Burns. He was no shepherd. He was a ploughman. But who can doubt that, as he trudged the deep clays behind in his mechanical occupation, he, too, battled with the problems of life, and received the divine inspiration of nature. There is a story of a good man, John Bradford, who, when he saw a criminal being taken to execution, said, "There, but for the grace of God, goes John Bradford." And I, when I see a ploughman at his toil, always remember Robert Burns, and think: "There—given the divine inspiration—there walks Robert Burns." (Cheers.) I don't suppose that the contributions of the ploughmen of Scotland, or of the men who work with their hands over Great Britain,

might amount to an enormous sum. But at any rate, I think they would honour themselves and their calling, and their immortal partner in manual labour, if they, too, sent a contribution, however small it might be, as a mark of their sympathy for the man and the calling. (Cheers.) Ladies and gentlemen, I have detained you much longer than I meant, but there is an allusion connected with Ayr which I should like to make before I sit down. Next year we are going to celebrate—or we can if we choose—the second centenary of the Treaty of Union with England, a Treaty which has been extremely beneficial to Scotland, but I think indirectly so, because the success of the Treaty of Union has been due not to its provisions, but to the national character, which has wrought out its own prosperity, unaided by the provisions of the Treaty of Union. Well, there is one remarkable fact about that Treaty which I have remembered some thirty years, and I hope my memory has not played me a trick. It is this—that Ayr was the only burgh in Scotland that petitioned, or desired to petition, Parliament on behalf of the Union. I do not know whether Ayr is pleased or not at that recollection, but at anyrate it will be open to it next year to celebrate with what becoming festivity it thinks well, I trust with local oratory alone—(laughter)—the triumph of its own historical foresight. Now, do you remember what the Chancellor of Scotland said when he gave the Royal consent to the Union? He said contemptuously or half-pathetically—I know not which—"There's the end of an auld sang." Well, it was the end of one auld sang; it was the end of the Scottish Parliament, and to much of the paraphernalia which distinguishes an independent kingdom. But Lord Seafield when he uttered that sneer, if sneer it was, forgot that there were many other auld sangs that were the property of the common people of Scotland, sangs rather rude, often coarse, some obscene, and he could not know, because he could not foresee that within a century of the Treaty of Union these were to be revived, and hallowed, and transmuted from baser metal into gold, by the sublime alchemy of a great magician. Sir, of the other old songs of Scotland, apart from the Parliament

and her Ministerial dignities, there shall be no end as long as the world lasts, thanks to Robert Burns. And I am not inclined to think that either Ayr, or Scotland, or the worshippers and enthusiasts of Burns, will allow the stigma to rest upon them of permitting to be destroyed for want of a small sum of money the monument to which he devoted one of the most immortal of his poems.

Appointment of Committee.

Mr J. G. A. Baird—Lord Glasgow, my Lords, Ladies and Gentlemen,—Lord Rosebery by his presence here and the speech which he has just delivered has, I am persuaded, roused the enthusiasm of this meeting. Of that I propose now to take advantage and to strike the iron while it is hot, and I do so by means of the following resolution, which has been entrusted to me :—

> "That the Auld Brig of Ayr, being a very ancient and historic structure of much archæological value, and having been immortalised by Burns, this meeting resolves that it should at once be thoroughly repaired, and that the cost of the necessary works should be defrayed by public subscriptions."

I beg leave to direct your particular attention to those words, "to be defrayed by public subscription." Mr Oswald has told us that he has already succeeded in gathering a large sum of money towards the restoration of the brig, and for that those who are stirring in the movement owe him their most cordial thanks. I do not know, ladies and gentlemen, what kind of net Mr Oswald has been fishing with, but I think that probably it was a small one with large meshes. Now, I think the time has arrived for extending the size of the net and diminishing the size of the meshes. Libellous people have said that when a silver collection is in prospect there is an extraordinary boom in threepenny bits. Well, ladies and gentlemen, I do not think the treasurer will despise the humble threepenny bit, provided it flows into his coffers in sufficient numbers. If it does so, it will do the work as well as any other coin. But I agree with Lord Rosebery when he said that he hoped the appeal would be issued to a much wider public than it had hitherto been. I think it would be to the advantage of all concerned that the multitude of people who subscribe, however small a sum, for the purpose of restoring the Old Bridge should be limitless, so far as Scotland is concerned, and that the number of those who in the future will be able to say, "Had it not been for me that old bridge would not be there," will be largely increased. But I must go back to the resolution and continue it :—

> "That for this purpose the following noblemen and gentlemen be appointed a General Committee, with power to add to their number, and to appoint a chairman, vice-chairman, and Executive Committee, and further hereby authorises and instructs all arrangements requiring to be made for the preservation and repair of the bridge ; and authorises and instructs such committee to forthwith proceed

with the preparation of plans, and the execution of all work following thereon or connected therewith, and that such committee be further specially instructed that all work falling to be done shall have for its object the preservation of the existing fabric, as far as possible in its entirety, and shall interfere as little as possible with its outward appearance, construction, or form; and that the funds already collected be used therefor in such manner as they may deem best, with full power to do all these works, enter into contracts, &c., new agreements with the Town Council, &c., without incurring any personal liability by so doing, or by any action they may take."

This is a long resolution—it is not my fault; I did not draw it up—but I think you will agree it is a necessary resolution to pass. There follows a list of the committee, but, ladies and gentlemen, if you will take my advice you will tell me I am not to read it. But I should like to mention that included in that list are the Lord Provosts of burghs, the presidents of every known Burns Club, and the Provosts of all towns with which Burns was associated. I now commit the resolution to your attention.

Wallace and Burns.

Dr William Wallace—My Lords, Ladies and Gentlemen,—By the courtesy of Lord Glasgow and your kind forbearance I am speaking here at the wrong time, but I have a train to catch, and Mr Beale has been so very good as to allow me to take his place. It is a great pleasure to me to second this eminently practical resolution which has been proposed in so practical a speech by Mr Baird. I wish most emphatically to say ditto to the public man, who, more than almost any man since Burke's time, has been able to suffuse public life with literary consciousness and literary emotion. And, gentlemen, having said ditto I should depart for the train, but there is one point bound up both with his speech and the practical resolution which has followed it, and that is—I daresay you will hardly believe me when I say it—that in a certain sense and as regards your interests as men of Ayrshire, men of Scotland, Lord Rosebery is a most dangerous man. I am not certain this is the first time that has been said, but my meaning is this—Lord Rosebery is perfectly well known to be the leading interpreter of Scottish literature and Scottish feeling to the English people. What Lord Rosebery has said to-night all London will be saying to-morrow. For example, there is Wallace, a man of the West. There is an immortal connection between Wallace and Burns. (Laughter.) Do not mistake me; it would be unpardonable to think of myself in this connection. I was thinking of a young cadet of my family who lost his head in London a great number of years ago, as many a Scotsman has done since, but whose soul is still marching on! Well, ladies and gentlemen, Lord Rosebery some years ago made a speech upon Wallace, which to my thinking was most skilfully balanced between sentiment, which is always a noble thing, and sentimentality, which is often a weak thing. Next day the English papers, to their credit be it said, not only discovered Wallace, but discovered that he was one of the greatest figures in British history, so much so that I firmly believe that in the English school books in the future you will find the battle of

Stirling Bridge described as one of the greatest achievements of British arms. Then, the burning of the barns of Ayr will be regarded as a righteous retribution. Having done that there is a danger, and the danger is this, that if you men of Ayrshire and of Scotland do not hurry up and provide the necessary funds, England will come to your help. And what of America? Mr Oswald has simply to send a circular out there and the question will be answered in a minute. That is really all I have to say. I trust that this appeal will be crowned with complete and rapid success. Some of us, like Lord Rosebery, have retired from the Burns business—although we keep our vows a little better than he has done to-night—(laughter)—but at the call of arms we are bound once more to come to the front, even though we had been like the Auld Brig itself "wi' crazy eild sair forfairn."

The Chairman put the resolution to the meeting and it was adopted unanimously.

Approval of Steps Taken.

The Rev. Dr Dykes—Lord Glasgow, Ladies and Gentlemen,—The motion which I have to propose is this:—

> "That this meeting unanimously approves and confirms the agreement adjusted between the Voluntary Committee and the Town Council of Ayr; also the various efforts made by the Committee for the preservation of the bridge, and for the raising of funds for that purpose; and further, thanks Mr Oswald and his Committee for the satisfactory work accomplished to date."

As an old citizen of Ayr—as one who has been identified with this community for a great number of years, I take the liberty of saying that I have very great pleasure in taking part in the proceedings of this meeting. The Auld Brig has so much interest, and is so connected with old associations, that it ought to be, and will be, I have no doubt, preserved, and I hope it will be preserved with as little change as possible. I am asked to propose in this motion that we approve of the steps which have already been taken. I think, considering what has passed already, I may take that for granted. The motion also is one that expresses thanks to Mr Oswald of Auchincruive. That, I think, will require no words of mine. Mr Oswald, on account of the position which he holds in the county, was able to command a measure of support that others would have failed to secure, and we are all glad to find that he has been so successful. With him there were others, as he himself has told us, associated who have taken a great deal of trouble. I ask you to express your thanks to Mr Oswald and to those who have acted with him in the endeavour to raise funds for the preservation of the Auld Brig.

Mr W. Phipson Beale, K.C., M.P.—Lord Glasgow, Ladies and Gentlemen,—I have had somewhat suddenly to transfer my affections from the General Committee, to whom we look for to do the future work, to this resolution, which expresses gratification and approval of the work hitherto done by the Voluntary Committee, and I am glad to see added to it the appreciation of the efforts of Mr Oswald. It is a very much easier thing to give a subscription—and that is not always easy—than it is to go round collecting sub-

scriptions and to stir up the public excitement till it produces such a meeting as we see here to-night. I am not sorry to have put into my hands a purely business-like resolution in one form or the other. I thoroughly approve of that part of one resolution which speaks of the necessity of preserving as much as possible the Old Bridge, and not replacing it. We want to preserve that ancient monument of which Ayrshire is the proud custodian, as it is the proud custodian of everything connected with Burns. I am really in a worse plight than Lord Rosebery himself, because I know by experience what a terrible thing it is to talk about Burns, having been all over this county in every place mentioned in his immortal works. But I knew better than try to quote him. I said I would not make a quotation, because I knew there was "a chiel among them takin' notes," and I would not run any risk. I got comfort from a casual observation of Lord Rosebery when he likened Burns to Homer. I recollect that Homer wrote, or was written, in a dialect which nobody would care to talk, and that did not prevent the most profound study and the most profound admiration of the writer. I am not sure that the terror with which I approach Burns is not shared by people in another direction. He says a great deal that is very painful about the foibles of mankind, and I think almost anybody may feel a certain amount of terror in going very deeply into Burns. Burns has passed into the literature of the world. We here in South Ayrshire have the means of preserving that which shall keep the world in mind, and I hope that on this occasion, and on any occasion on which something can be done worthy of his memory, we shall all join in lending our aid to it.

The Chairman put the resolution to the meeting, and it was unanimously adopted.

The Town Council's Position.

Mr Walter Neilson—My Lord Glasgow, my Lords, Ladies and Gentlemen,—I have been asked to submit the following resolution for your acceptance :—

> "That this large and influential meeting of subscribers and of the public, in view of the response already made to the appeal for subscriptions for the preservation of the bridge, and in anticipation of the contributions still to come, respectfully request the Provost, Magistrates, and Town Council of Ayr to extend the time already granted for the purpose of raising £10,000, and the commencement of preservative operations on the bridge, till 31st March next; and also for a corresponding extension of time for the execution of the work, as already set forth in the agreement adjusted between the Town Council and the Voluntary Committee."

Ladies and gentlemen, in the June of last summer a deputation, consisting of Mr Oswald, Mr Morris, and myself, had an interview with the Town Council of Ayr on the question of the preservation of the Auld Brig, and we came to a very satisfactory arrangement, and were given a certain time to raise the necessary money. But, ladies and gentlemen, it is not a very easy matter to raise £10,000, even when the work we have in view is such a laudable one as the preservation of the Auld Brig, and we had to return to the Town Council

and ask them for an extension of time. They received us in the most kind and sympathetic manner, gave us that extension, and the position we are now in is the fruit of what they have done for us in that way. We are now in the position, I think, of almost guaranteeing the Auld Brig a new lease of life; and I cannot help saying here, as one of the Voluntary Committee, that this, if not altogether due, is at least in very great measure due, to the untiring interest and energy of Mr Oswald and Mr Morris—(cheers)—in the case of Mr Oswald under trying conditions, as he was far from well—notwithstanding which he never flagged in his interest in the scheme. Well, ladies and gentlemen, this resolution which I have submitted is to empower us to return to the Town Council and ask them for an extension of time to get sufficient money for this purpose. Judging from the experience I have already had with the Town Council in this matter, you need have no anxiety as to the manner in which the Town Council will receive your request.

"Auld Killie."

Mr Duncan M'Naught — My Lords, Ladies and Gentlemen — As representative of the Burns Federation, and also of the Burns Club which stands first on the register of that association, I have very great pleasure in seconding the resolution so ably proposed by Mr Neilson. After all that has been said, and so well said, there is almost nothing left for me to say. I came here with great expectations, and I have not been disappointed. I have listened with rapt attention to the eloquent appeal by Lord Rosebery, that "Typical Scotsman" as the newspaper editors have taken to nicknaming him. I do not know what his Lordship may think, but I object entirely to the appellation, for the good and sufficient reason that it is so apt to be misunderstood and misinterpreted by the aliens over the Border, and elsewhere. The typical Scot, as I have knowledge of him, is a Cockney invention, never seen without a kilt, and that article of attire, so far as I have observed, is, like Nannie's, somewhat scanty of longitude; he is towsy-headed and red-haired, and his leading mental characteristic, so far as I have been able to understand it, is an inordinate affection for stray sixpences. We also have it on high authority that he is a creature that can neither make nor appreciate a joke without a preliminary surgical operation. Well, if this "Typical Scotsman" who has addressed you to-night cannot make a joke and appreciate one, too, as evidenced by his last speech at Hawick, then I do not know what a joke or what rich humour is. I would rather call him the ideal nobleman of Scotland, because he is a nobleman everywhere, for as Burns said of his friend Captain Matthew Henderson, "he holds the patents of his nobility direct from Almighty God." Now, to bring down his eloquence to the practical platform, what is it we are asked to do? It seems a mere bagatelle. One hundred thousand people at a shilling; ten thousand at half a sovereign; half of the population of the Burgh of Ayr at the sum of three half-crowns a piece! If we cannot accomplish such a puny task as that, I look upon it as little short of a national disgrace. The resolution I have been asked to speak to is drawn in the form of a prayer or petition to the "dainty deacons" and the "douce Councillors" of the Auld Burgh of Ayr. They have done nobly in the past, and what they have done in the past is only

an earnest of what they intend to do in the future, and I have every confidence that our request will be fully granted by the Town Council. If our efforts fail, if the Auld Brig is doomed to disappear, then I would say to every Ayr man, to every Ayrshire man, to every Scotsman on the face of the civilised globe, that he richly deserves the implied denunciation of the Sprite of the Auld Brig when replying to his rival of the New—

> "A' ye douce folk I've borne aboon the broo,
> Were ye but there, what would ye say or do!
> How would your spirits groan in deep vexation
> To see each melancholy alteration;
> And, agonising, curse the time and place
> Which e'er begat the base degenerate race!"

—the "base degenerate race" of Scotsmen who without protest or without effort of any kind would meekly submit to its demolition. I will not obtrude myself further on the patience of the meeting. I cannot sit down, however, without expressing my profound regret at the enforced absence of the president of the Burns Federation, my life-long friend ex-Provost Mackay, of Kilmarnock, who at this moment lies at the very gates of death. Had he been here to have discharged the duty which now devolves upon me, he would have done so with a dignity and grace, a force and eloquence that I cannot pretend to possess. I can only add in the name of Kilmarnock and the Burns Federation everywhere that every man of us holds himself ready to do all that in him lies in order that this movement may achieve the measure of success it so richly merits.

The Chairman put the resolution to the meeting, and it was unanimously adopted.

Visitors' Reverence for the Brig.

Mr W. H. Dunlop: My Lord Glasgow, my Lords, Ladies and Gentlemen,—The Committee have done me the honour of asking me to propose the following resolution:—

> "That this meeting of subscribers and general public in support of the scheme for raising funds for the purpose of preserving the Auld Brig of Ayr unanimously resolves to approach Scottish Societies and Burns Clubs throughout the British Empire and United States of America, inviting them to interest themselves in, and support the efforts of this Committee to raise sufficient funds for, such preservation, and suggests that they may be good enough to submit this motion to the members of their respective societies and clubs on the 30th November or 25th January, as may be most suitable for their arrangements; and, if so resolved, to arrange that subscriptions may be received on these or other dates as may be most convenient, and forwarded to the Hon. Secretaries, Messrs David W. Shaw & Welsh, 5 Wellington Square, Ayr."

It is quite unnecessary at this period of the evening and after the eloquent speeches and appeals we have heard for me to say anything in support of this

resolution, but, as I have frequent opportunities of seeing very many people that visit the land of Burns and hearing their opinion, whether excursionists from Scotland, or tourists from other parts of the British Empire, or the United States, or foreign countries, they all reverence and look with the greatest regard and respect on our ancient monuments, and I am sure they would all be intensely disappointed if by any laxity on our part in Ayrshire a monument such as the Auld Brig should be destroyed. I am sure that those societies we have referred to in the resolution will be glad to assist us in the effort. It is a big job; the cost is uncertain; and I would ask this meeting to spare no effort to provide a sufficient sum to thoroughly repair the bridge, so that it may last for generations, and that as long as the stones of the bridge last themselves we never may have the disgrace of thinking it may become "a shapeless cairn."

The Chairman put the resolution to the meeting, and it was adopted.

Thanks to Lord Rosebery.

Mr George Younger, M.P.—Lord Glasgow, my Lords, Ladies and Gentlemen,—The resolution which I have the honour to ask you to pass to-night is not couched in the lengthy terms of some of those that have preceded it, but I am sure that in your view, as it is in mine, it is not the least important of those you have been asked to pass. It is that you should accord a hearty vote of thanks to Lord Rosebery for his presence here to-night, and for the powerful appeal which he has made in favour of the object which all of us have so deeply at heart. I do not think for a moment it is necessary—in fact I know it is unnecessary—for Lord Rosebery to come here to appeal to the people of Ayr, or Ayrshire, in favour of the movement which has been so admirably initiated by Mr Oswald, but it was felt by your Voluntary Committee that the time had come when the nucleus of the fund having been obtained, locally, for the most part, it was essential that an appeal should be made to those outside who might be expected to help us in this excellent work. For that reason, Lord Rosebery has come to-night; he has voiced that appeal in words of his usual eloquence; and, if you have enjoyed them as I have, I am sure you will accord him a hearty and cordial vote of thanks for his kindness, and the great work he has done for us, in trying to lead Scotland to-night.

Lord Rosebery's Humour.

Lord Rosebery—Ladies and Gentlemen, I can best show my gratitude for your abundant kindness by simply thanking you in a word, as the hour is late, and there is no necessity for the meeting to last much longer. You have already heard a great deal of my voice this evening. If any remarks are to be made on this subject, or any subject, I should like them to be supplied by the Hon. Hew Dalrymple who has been unintentionally omitted from the programme. I have said all I have to say, but I am sure if the Chairman would allow the Hon. Hew Dalrymple he would give us a short, pithy, epigrammatic and eloquent speech which would give you great pleasure to listen to, but which if not delivered might cause him serious intellectual indigestion. (Great laughter.)

The Chairman—I do not think the Hon. Hew Dalrymple should be left out on account of my careless mistake. I am sure the meeting would be glad to hear him on the subject of Lord Rosebery or on any other subject.

The Hon. Hew Dalrymple—Lord Glasgow, my Lords, Ladies and Gentlemen,—I was very pleased when his Lordship got up and put the resolution moved by Mr Dunlop without calling upon me, but if you wish to know what I intended to say, it was merely that as the hour was late I would consult your convenience best by saying nothing, but seconding it in a word. (Laughter and applause.)

Sheriff Shairp—My Lord, Ladies and Gentlemen,—Before we separate we have one duty to perform, a very pleasant duty, and that is to thank our Chairman, Lord Glasgow, for presiding here to-night. We feel how natural and how appropriate it is that he should have led us on this important occasion. We are met in a good cause, a cause which appeals to Ayr, to Ayrshire, and to the larger circle of which we have heard to-night. I ask you to join in giving Lord Glasgow a most hearty vote of thanks for his valuable services in the chair.

The Chairman—My Lords, Ladies and Gentlemen,—I beg to thank you very heartily for the manner in which you have received the eulogistic reference to me, made so gracefully by Sheriff Shairp.

The proceedings concluded with the singing of "Auld Lang Syne" by the audience, in which they joined hands all round.

Dangers of Delay.

Ayr Town Council yesterday (October 9th) agreed, on the recommendation of the Works Committee, to extend the time for the raising of funds for the preservation and repair of the Auld Brig till March 31, in accordance with the application of the General Committee appointed at the recent meeting in the Town Hall. The Surveyor (Mr John Young) reported that the scour of the river had caused some considerable holes to be made round the supports of the centring of the south arch, and that it was absolutely necessary that these be at once repaired, and he was instructed to have that done forthwith. The Surveyor also mentioned that recently considerable cracks had appeared in the northern arch, and the clerk was instructed to ask Messrs Shaw & Welsh to draw the attention of their committee to the risks that are being run through the delay in proceeding with the work on the bridge.

Preservation Executive Committee.

A meeting of the Ayr Auld Brig Preservation Executive Committee was held in the office of the hon. secretaries (Messrs D. W. Shaw & Welsh) at Ayr yesterday (October 10th, 1906). Mr J. A. Morris, Ayr, presided, and there were also present the Marquis of Bute; Mr Robert Angus, Ladykirk; Mr W. H. Dunlop of Doonside; Mr Walter Neilson of Ewenfield; Provost Jamieson, Darvel; Captain Sneddon, Kilmarnock; and Mr J. C. Highet, Ayr. It was agreed that the names of Mr Philip Sulley, Cupar Fife; Mr J. Chapman Craig, Cupar Fife; Mr W. P. Beale of Drumlamford, K.C., M.P.; Mr George

Younger of Valleyfield, M.P.; Provost Glover, Dumfries; and Mr W. J. Pollock, Bank of Scotland, Ayr, the hon. treasurer of the fund, be added to the committee.

Letters were read from Sir James Coats of Auchendrane; Mr John Strain, C.E., Cassillis House; and Mr W. A. Dinwiddie, secretary of the Dumfries Burns Club, expressing regret that they were unable to act on the Executive Committee. Sir James Coats of Auchendrane explained that owing to his going abroad shortly for the greater part of the winter he would not be able to attend the meetings. The secretaries reported that various Burns clubs had sent in the names of their officials as requested in the press. It was arranged to have the whole proceedings of the Rosebery meeting printed in booklet form. A circular letter of appeal to Colonial societies was adopted, and it was arranged that it, along with copies of the booklet, should be forwarded to the respective secretaries of those societies as soon as possible. It was also agreed to send an appeal for subscriptions to the London Scottish societies. The letter from the Town Council of Ayr granting an extension of time for the raising of the funds was submitted, and the committee resolved to thank the Council for their consideration.

The secretaries were also instructed to reply as regards the Town Council's remarks on the condition of the bridge, that they were cognisant as to its state, and were losing no time in having an engineer appointed and matters pushed forward. The question of appointing an engineer was fully discussed, and it was arranged that several engineers should be seen on the subject. It was remitted to a small sub-committee to form local committees in several towns for the purpose of collecting subscriptions.

Another meeting of Committee was held yesterday (17th October) in the offices of the hon. secretaries (Messrs D. W. Shaw & Welsh) at Ayr. Mr Walter Neilson of Ewenfield presided, and there were also present the Marquis of Bute, Mr W. A. Dunlop of Doonside; Mr Robert Angus, Ladykirk; Captain Sneddon, Kilmarnock; Mr J. C. Highet, Ayr; Mr W. J. Pollock, Ayr, hon. treasurer; Mr J. N. Murray, Town Clerk, Irvine; and Mr David Duff, secretary of the Ayr Burns Club. The Marquis of Bute was appointed a vice-president of the Executive Committee. Messrs Simpson & Wilson, C.E., 175 Hope Street, Glasgow, were unanimously appointed engineers to carry out the preservative work along with an archæological expert to be appointed by the committee. Mr Wilson, who was in attendance, stated that along with the Ayr Burgh Surveyor (Mr John Young) he had visited the bridge earlier in the day, but the water was in high flood, and they could see little. It was intimated that Mr Frederic Ely, Mus. Bac. (Lond.), Ayr, was arranging to give three concerts, one each in Ayr, Maybole, and Troon, on 23rd, 24th, and 25th January respectively, in aid of the Preservation Fund. Messrs Smith & Martin, joint-secretaries of the United Burns Clubs, Glasgow, were appointed members of the Executive Committee.

BURNS AND OCHILTREE.

"Even winter bleak has charms to me
When winds rave through the naked tree;
Or frosts on hills of Ochiltree
Are hoary gray;
Or blinding drifts wild-furious flee,
Darkening the day."

IT was but natural that the Parish of Ochiltree, Ayrshire, lying contiguous to Auchinleck, Mauchline, and Stair, and within a few miles of Tarbolton and Ayr, should share in the classical and hallowed associations which Burns has thrown over and around the beautiful sylvan scenery of this district. Burns, while in Lochlea, had many friends in Ochiltree Parish, and Davie Sillar, of Spittalside, Tarbolton, and he used to visit the lasses at Stair House, near at hand, and had been introduced by them to their mistress, General Stewart's wife, to whom Burns read his poems, and who ever afterwards was his friend and correspondent. On removing to Mossgiel he kept up the intercourse with his friends down Ochiltree and Stair way, and to visit them would cross over the "Hermit Ayr" at Barskimming Auld Brig, about a mile from Mauchline. In the house at the Auld Brig there lived an old man named Kemp and his daughter. It was after calling on this old man on one occasion, and while walking in the holm or Craw-wood over the bridge, on the banks of the Ayr, with his friend Miller Andrew of Barskimming Mill, that he composed "Man was made to mourn." Another couple of miles along the road would bring him to Auchenbay, where his friend John Tennant, jun., lived. About two miles further on brought him to Ochiltree, and an equal distance beyond would land him at Glenconner, the home of his and his father's friend, John Tennant.

It is said that Burns knew every pool in the Ayr from Barskimming Auld Brig up to Catrine and the darker Lugar, and,

listening to their rippling music as they sped on for ever o'er their pebbly beds, he had no reason to go over to Ochiltree for inspiration. Had he needed it, however, the lovely rural village of Ochiltree, then quite a new creation, with the winding Lugar running past it and entering further down into the famous woods of Auchinleck, to finally lose itself, about 3 miles from Ochiltree, in the river Ayr at Barskimming Mill dam, might have been to him as inspiring as Mauchline and Tarbolton. There stood, and still stands, the fine old house of Andrew Stewart, second Lord

Glenconner,

The home of Burns's friend, John Tennant ("Guid Auld Glen"). Walls of the dwelling-house since Burns's time have been raised and the thatched roof replaced with slates.

Ochiltree, called the "good Lord Ochiltree," from which John Knox took his second wife, after her elder sister had refused him —the lovely young lassie, Margaret Stewart, Andrew's daughter— in March, 1564, a lineal descendant of whom, Jane Welsh, in later years became the wife of Thomas Carlyle.

From the same house John Graham of Claverhouse (Bloody Clavers) took his bonnie bride, Jean Cochrane, third daughter of Lord Cochrane of Ochiltree, on 10th June, 1684, who, by the way, with all her charms could not prevent him from leaving her

immediately after the marriage ceremony for six days' hunting of the hated Whigs, luckily with scant success. Ochiltree, situated in the middle of a county which had seen in the latter end of the thirteenth century the struggle for Scottish freedom by Wallace, and the movement for religious freedom by the Lollards of Kyle, led by Adam Reid of Barskimming, in the end of the fifteenth century, could not but have the attention of the Government party during the Covenanting or "killing" time in the end of the seventeenth century.

Auchenbay, Ochiltree,
The house of John Tennant, junr. ("Auchenbay, I wish him joy").

Burns might also have heard the story of Jean Cochrane's brother, Sir John, who espoused the cause of the Whigs, and in 1685 lay in an Edinburgh prison condemned to death by the Council of London, waiting the arrival of the death warrant to authorise the execution ; and how his daughter Grizel waylaid the postman, and made him "stand and deliver" his post bag, from which she extracted the death warrant, and so delayed the execution till a pardon was obtained for her father.

If Burns took little notice of the past, he was always keenly alive to the things of the present, and notices many of his con-

temporaries in connection with Ochiltree, among whom were James, 14th Earl of Glencairn, his mother the Dowager Countess, the Tennants, George Reid, Barwharrie, William Simson, Rev. David Grant, Thomas Walker, and others. One characteristic feature of Ochiltree at this time was the number of poets it contained, being almost as famous in that particular as Paisley in later years. Among these we have the two Simsons, William and Patrick; James Fisher, the Blind Musician; and Thos. Walker, the Poetical Tailor. In the neighbouring parish of Tarbolton

Barwharrie, Ochiltree, as at present.

The home of Mr George Reid, who lent Burns his pony when he went first to Edinburgh. This was a mansion house of two storeys in Burns's day, and had been used by Mr Reid's uncle, minister of Ochiltree, as a manse.

also were David Sillar and Saunders Tait, who both published volumes at this time; "Rude and Ready-witted Rankine" of Adamhill; John Lapraik, of Muirkirk; and many others. Had George Douglas Brown, a native of Ochiltree, and author of "The House with the Green Shutters," been spared to take up this subject, he, no doubt, would have done it full justice. With the help of Mr James Tennant, of Glasgow, grandson of Burns's "comrade dear," we will do our humble best to supplement our

article in last year's *Burns Chronicle*, and say something about Burns's other Ochiltree friends and contemporaries.

First comes Elizabeth, Dowager Countess of Glencairn, whom we referred to in our former article, and who was one of those gentle women who are described in Proverbs as "a mother in Israel." While endeavouring to leave the world better than she found it, she initiated or assisted many schemes with that end in view. One of them was a Girls' School at Ochiltree for teaching young girls spinning, knitting, and weaving, which she founded in 1789. She also established a Bible Class for boys and girls, perhaps the first in Scotland. Many of her letters are still in existence, and those to Rev. Mr Grant, minister of Ochiltree, and Miss Jean M'Latchie, the first mistress of the school, who afterwards became the wife of James Tennant ("comrade dear"), show the truly loving Christian woman with a "heart benevolent and kind" for those less fortunate than herself in worldly circumstances. Born of lowly parentage at Ayr in 1725, she died at Edinburgh on 25th June, 1801, aged 76 years, loved and respected by all with whom she came in contact. She was one of Burns's most respected correspondents.

James, 14th Earl of Glencairn.

Although his mother possessed the Barony of Ochiltree and Ochiltree House, she does not seem to have stayed much in Ochiltree, and neither did her son James. The family seat was Findlaystone, Renfrewshire, and although the Earl did not know Burns personally, he had been made acquainted with his works through his factor at Findlaystone, Mr Dalzell, and probably through his mother's Ochiltree factor, "Guid Auld Glen." Coates House, Edinburgh, was one of their residences, "Auld Reekie" being at that time the centre of fashion, as well as of learning; the élite of the country in every condition of life aimed at living there, especially during the winter months. It was in Edinburgh then where, as Burns himself says, the providential care of a good God placed him under the patronage of one of His noblest creatures, the Earl of Glencairn. It is now known, however,

that Burns had a host of Ayrshire friends in Edinburgh to whom he had become known through his first edition. Among them were all of Hugh M'Guire's daughters' husbands, and the son of one of them, Glencairn. So far as we know, the first meeting of Burns and Glencairn is not recorded, but from the Poet's own writings they must have met often. That Burns cherished a greater respect and esteem for Glencairn than for any man of his acquaintance his writings clearly prove. It was early in 1787

Ochiltree House at the present day.

Long in the possession of Elizabeth, Countess of Glencairn.

that Burns wrote to him gratefully acknowledging his kindness and stating that "the enclosed stanzas I intended to have written below a picture or profile of your Lordship could I have been so happy as to procure one with anything of a likeness." The enclosed stanzas were the well-known ones in praise of his patron.

As proof of the high estimation Burns had of his literary ability and of his influence, he asked the Earl's opinion of his "Ballad on the American War," and he also solicited his patronage and assistance to get him into the Excise. Burns could not leave Edinburgh without, on 4th May, 1787, again thanking Glencairn

for what he had done for him ; and afterwards from Ellisland he wrote to Lady Elizabeth Cunningham, the Earl's sister, "that he had a shade of the Earl," with the verses referred to, "wrote out," and pasted on the back of it, hung over his parlour chimney-piece, also "a small shade of him set in a gold breastpin, with the words '*Mon Dieu et toi*' engraved on the shell, for use on gala days." When the Earl died, Burns wrote the "Lament for James, Earl of Glencairn," with the immortal final stanza, and promised to name one of his children after him, which he fulfilled to the letter. The Earl of Glencairn died when quite a young man, in 1791, in the 42nd year of his age. Besides being a man of noble bearing, he seems to have inherited the beautiful physical attributes, mental qualities, and kindly disposition of his mother, for he was loved and esteemed by all who knew him.

The Rev. David Grant.

The following minute from the Ochiltree Church Records explains itself:—"Decr. 14th, 1786.—Rev. David Grant, from Ettrick, was this day admitted to the pastoral charge of this congregation, the Rev. Mr Peebles, Newton-of-Ayr, presiding at the occasion, accompanied with a competent number of other ministers of this Presbytery."

He derived his notoriety from having been convener of the Presbytery's Committee on the Publications of the Rev. Dr M'Gill, Ayr, the action of which committee roused the passions of the populace, and caused Burns to write the satirical "Kirk's Alarm." In this composition he refers to Mr Grant as—

> "Davie Bluster, Davie Bluster,
> If for a saint ye do muster,
> The corps is no nice of recruits ;
> Yet to worth let's be just,
> Royal blood ye might boast,
> If the ass was the king of the brutes."

In a letter from Ellisland to Lady Elizabeth Cunningham (Glencairn's sister), dated 23rd December, 1789, Burns says—"I ought to apologise to your ladyship for sending you some of the enclosed rhymes, they are so silly. Everybody knows of poor Dr

M'Gill. He is my particular friend, and my ballad on his prosecution has virulence enough if it has not wit. You must not read Lady Glencairn the stanza about the Priest of Ochiltree. Though I know him to be a designing, rotten-hearted Puritan, yet perhaps her ladyship has a different idea of him."

Mr Tennant has it from his father that John Tennant—"Guid Auld Glen"—told Burns that he had been unjust to the Rev. Mr Grant in "The Kirk's Alarm," and took Burns in to Mr Grant's house and introduced him, the two becoming and remaining fast friends.

The Dowager Lady Glencairn was patron of the parish and had presented Mr Grant. He died of an asthmatical and dropsical complaint on 16th July, 1791, in his 42nd year and 10th of his ministry, having been 4½ years in Ochiltree. He was respected by the Evangelical party, and, to quote Hew Scott's *Ecclesiastical History of Scotland*, "he was singularly upright in his intention, animated in his address, and cheerful in his conversation." "An enlarged knowledge of mankind was improved by him for the great purpose of rendering his ministerial labours more useful. His piety was unaffected, and his mind strongly impressed with a habitual sense of Divine Providence in every occurrence of life. He married in 1783 Miss Mills, sister of Sir Thomas Mills, who died in April, 1785, leaving an only son." Mr Grant published a book of sermons during his incumbency at Ochiltree.

"Tam Samson."

It is not generally known that the world-renowned nurseryman immortalised by Burns in the celebrated "Elegy" was born in Ochiltree. The following extract from the Ochiltree Session Records, now in the Register House, Edinburgh, proves this:—"Thomas Samson, L.S. (lawful son) to John Samson, gardiner in Ochiltree, born Nov. 17th, 1725." Thomas was evidently a younger son, having at least one brother born seven years before him, in 1718, as the following inscription taken from a tombstone in Ochiltree Kirkyard shows:—"In memory of John Samson, gardener, who died in June, 1791, aged 73 years, of his wife

Jane Good, who died in Dec., 1767, at the age of 45, and of his parents, J. S. and M. M., as on the adjoining stone." This "J. S." is no doubt the John Samson, gardener, whose name is

"Tam Samson."

From a painting in the possession of John Cunningham, Esq., J.P., Stewarton.

given in the extract from the Ochiltree records, and father of both John and Thomas. The Samsons had long been nurserymen or "gardiners" in Ochiltree, and their nursery was across the road from the Kirkyard, in what is called the "Tenrood." John, the

elder son, would probably succeed his father in Ochiltree, and Thomas, after learning the business, would probably remove to Kilmarnock, joining an uncle or brother in starting the famous firm of "Wm. & T. Samson, nurserymen, Kilmarnock."

Mr Samson's monument in the burial-ground of the Laigh Kirk, Kilmarnock, has the following inscription:—"Thomas Samson, died the 12th December, 1795, aged 72 years.

Tam Samson's weel worn clay here lies,
Ye canting Zealots spare him.
If Honest Worth in Heaven rise,
Ye'll mend or ye win near him.—*Burns.*"

It will be seen from this that he was 70 years of age when he died. Robertson, who died in 1798, and Mackinlay, who died in 1841, with Samson, all mentioned in the first stanza of the "Elegy," are buried within a few feet of each other.

Winsome Willie

was the best known of all Burns's Ochiltree poetic friends and contemporaries. He was the eldest of two sons (both noted Ochiltree men) of Mr John Simson, who leased a small farm near Ochiltree called "Ten Pound Land," where his ancestors had been located for generations. William was born in 1758, being older than Burns by one year. He was educated for the church, and became a teacher from choice, owing to the situation of schoolmaster in his native parish becoming vacant in 1780. Eight years later he migrated to Old Cumnock to a more lucrative situation and became parish schoolmaster there. He was succeeded by his brother Patrick, also a rhymer, of whom we will have more to say further on. "Winsome Willie" died at Old Cumnock on 4th July, 1815, aged 57 years, 19 years after Burns. Simson's widow survived till 10th June, 1834, three months after Jean Armour, Burns's widow. Winsome Willie was also elected session-clerk on July 26th, 1779. It was while in Ochiltree that his acquaintance with Burns began. He might meet Burns on some of his visits to Glenconner, or perhaps after church time on Sabbath, for, as we mentioned in our last article,

it was well known that Burns went to church with Glenconner and his family. At any rate, the intimacy was sufficiently close that some time after 1783, when the "Twa Herds" was published anonymously in Kilmarnock, his brother Patrick on visiting that town brought home a copy of that poem, gave it to William to read, and William wrote a rhyming letter to Burns. It is most unfortunate that this epistle has been lost, as one would like to know the exact words that drew such a fine poem and postscript in reply from Burns as the one beginning "I gat your letter, Winsome Willie," in May, 1785. It is said that the friendship of Burns and William Simson was not confined to letter writing, but that they met often and were bosom friends. Among Simson's friends was one Thomas Walker, a tailor, also a rhymer, of whom we will have more to say anon. Simson was the author of many poetical pieces, the manuscripts of which are in the possession of Mr Alexander Murdoch, Meikleriggs, Paisley, through whose kindness we are enabled to give the following hitherto unpublished acrostic on Robert Burns the Poet :—

"R ead, spectator, ere you go,
O 'er my life as penned below.
B orn in Kyle, a ploughman long,
E minent in Scottish Song ;
R hyming got me the Excise,
T here in death I closed my eyes.

B orn a Bard, the Muse obeyed me,
U nimplored, as nature swayed me,
R ound on Fancy's fairy wings,
N ature's pure poetic springs ;
S atire lent me all her strings."

—William Simson.

As a further specimen of his powers we give the following "On Happiness," also unpublished :—

"O, happiness, 'tis thee
We still seek to obtain,
Whether we cross the sea,
Or labour on the plain ;
But who is he
That e'er can say
I've found the way
That leads to thee ?

It cannot be the Beau,
  Enrobed in silk attire,
Perplexed still to know
  If ladies him admire ;
    For certainly,
      'Twixt hopes and fears
      His course he steers
    Perplexedly.

Nor can the Prodigal,
  Who in his lusts and wine
Profusely spends his all,
  Say 'Happiness is mine.'
    For sure he must
      In all these joys
      Find something cloys
    And gives disgust.

Much less the Miser still,
  Since all he hath in store
Of riches ne'er can quell
  His appetite for more :
    Whose greedy soul
      Give ! give ! doth cry
      Incessantly
    Without control.

The syllogistic mode
  Of ratiocination
Can ne'er find out the road
  To thy blest habitation.
    Nor can the best
      Metaphysician
      Or Rhetorician
    Do aught but guess't.

The philosophic Sages
  Far seen in Nature's laws,
And skilled in mystic pages,
  About Effect and Cause,
    Can never tell
      The proper road
      To thy abode
    With all their skill.

Nor Kings of royal birth,
  Whose tyrannising rod
Can make the very earth
  To tremble at their nod.

For none, we're sure,
Can e'er possess
True happiness
By dint of power.

True happiness, 'tis clear,
Is neither here nor there,
Nay, rather it is here,
And there and everywhere.
Where'er we find
A human breast
That is possessed
Of peace of mind."

—WILLIAM SIMSON.

Many poems of Simson's have been published, several addressed to Tom Walker, which show fair merit. He was also the author of a humorous piece on the Emperor Paul of Russia, who was assassinated in 1801, entitled "The Emperor Paul's Flight to Pandemonium." It is very clever, but as it has been published before we will only give the first and last of the six stanzas :—

"The Emperor Paul was a plague to us all,
And excited the wrath of our Navy :
But the moment he found we had weathered the Sound,
For shelter fled down to Sir Davie, Auld Davie,*
Plump downward to dainty Auld Davie.

. . . . .

Says Davie to Paul, Be easy, poor saul,
You are safe and as welcome's a brither :
Come ben, take a seat by your mammie, Auld Kate ;
What a chance you wan down to your mither, safe hither,
What a comfort to Kate, your Auld Mither."

Three of William Simson's four children died within three months—two sons and a daughter, the eldest 22 and the youngest 14, as recorded on his tombstone in Old Cumnock Kirkyard, a very sad trial indeed. He only survived this misfortune a couple of years, dying at the age of 57, after teaching for forty years. Burns, as he generally did, struck the right nail on the head when he called him "Winsome Willie." He was one of the most genial, gay, and cheerful of men, and from records in

* The Devil.

existence his memory was still green in Old Cumnock at least forty years after his decease. Where he is buried in Old Cumnock is within a short distance of the grave of "Ann Rankine," the reputed heroine of the famous song, "It was upon a Lammas nicht," and youngest daughter of John Rankine of Adamhill, Tarbolton, "the rough, rude, ready-witted Rankine of the Poet." Simson's tombstone, in Ochiltree Kirkyard, has the following inscription:—"William Simson, sometime schoolmaster of Ochiltree, afterwards of Cumnock, the 'Winsome Willie' of Burns. Himself a poet, a wit, a scholar, and a gentleman. Born 1758; died 1815. *Semper honos nomenque tuum laudesque manebunt.*"

Patrick Simson.

Patrick, the younger brother of William, "Winsome Willie," was seven years younger than his more famous brother. Though he lived long after his brother was dead (he having survived him 33 years, dying in 1848), Cunningham, Hogg, and others erroneously identified him as the "Winsome Willie" of the Poet's epistle. Though he lived for 52 years after Burns died, none of the Burns commentators seems to have consulted him on his brother's correspondence with Burns, concerning which he was very communicative.

He seems to have been very proud of having been the first to bring a copy of the "Twa Herds" to Ochiltree to his brother, thereby causing him to send the lost epistle to Burns which brought Burns's reply to "Winsome Willie." He began to teach in a private family in the parish of Ochiltree in 1777, but had not charge of a public school till 1783. Five years later, in 1788, he succeeded his brother as parish schoolmaster in Ochiltree on the latter's removal to Old Cumnock. He occupied that position in Ochiltree for 64 years. In 1833, on the completion of his fiftieth year as a parochial teacher, he was honoured with a jubilee dinner, at which many of his old pupils were present. Many years later than this, Mr J. Paterson, author of the *History of Ayrshire*, tells of having met him, and says, "Seldom have I been more gratified than in the enjoyment of his company." Full of

anecdote, and stored with tales innumerable of the "olden time," he could sing a song admirably, and his recitations, especially those of his brother's composition, were executed with incomparable naïveté. He was a rhymer, like the others, but no poet. Having been applied to in his vocation as dominie by an old woman of the name of Sloan to draw out a petition for her, he produced the following :—

"To her very kind friends
Lord Glenlees' lands upon
The following petition
Of old Janet Sloan,
Doth humbly show
That to frailty and age,
She has drawl'd out her life
To an advanced stage.

Tho' in means of subsistence
She often is scant,
She never yet has been
In absolute want.
From good folks like you,
Who have something to spare,
And kind hearts to bestow it,
She has aye got a share.

For which she is thankful,
And begs to present
Her petition to you
When paying your rent,
That of her you'll be mindful,
As you've been heretofore,
And still ne'er cease to pray
May the Lord bless your store."

This off-hand effusion of Mr Simson was productive of the desired effect, all of the tenants contributing, and thereby gladdening the heart of Janet.

Mr Simson was a superior Latin scholar. He also, in the absence of Sir Alexander Boswell, Bart., corrected the proof sheets of the celebrated Auchinleck press, especially reprints of old authors. He is also celebrated as being the originator of a story which has caused a great amount of discussion as to the authorship of the poem "Epistle to a Tailor," but of that more anon in our remarks about Thomas Walker. Mr Patrick Simson

was elected session-clerk on November 2nd, 1788. On the family monument in Ochiltree there is an inscription stating he was 64 years schoolmaster in Ochiltree.

Thomas Walker.

Thomas, or Tom Walker, the Poetical Tailor, as he was more familiarly called, is supposed to have been a native of Sorn, about 6 or 7 miles from Ochiltree. At anyrate, from the fact that when he died his remains were buried in Sorn, the above conclusion is probable. He resided long in the parish of Ochiltree before Burns came to Mossgiel and for long after Burns died. He resided at a place called Pool, near Ochiltree. Patrick Simson says he "maintained a respectable character for sobriety, honesty, and glee." The only work he is understood to have published was a pamphlet entitled "A Picture of the World." He was a friend of the Simsons, especially of William, and on hearing of his success in drawing such a beautiful poem from Burns to "Winsome Willie," Thomas Walker thought he might manage something similar himself. He therefore sent Burns a long-winded epistle of 26 stanzas, of which Burns took no notice. On the appearance of the Kilmarnock Edition he again tried to draw Burns's attention by sending him a sort of rhyming sermon of 21 stanzas. To this Burns replied with the celebrated "Epistle to a Tailor." The latter was first published in 1801 by Thomas Stewart, of Glasgow, in a volume entitled "Poems ascribed to Robert Burns, the Ayrshire Bard, not contained in any Edition of his Works hitherto published."

Therein is also printed 10 stanzas of the epistle from the tailor, which we give as a Burns curiosity:—

EPISTLE FROM A TAILOR TO ROBERT BURNS.

"What waefu' news is this I hear?
Frae greetin' I can scarce forbear,
Folk tell me ye're gawn aff this year
Oot o'er the sea,
And lasses wham ye lo'e sae dear
Will greet for thee.

Weel wad I like war ye to stay,
But, Robin, since ye will away,
I ha'e a word yet mair to say,
And maybe twa—
May He protect us nicht an' day
That made us a'.

Whar thou art gawn keep mind frae me,
Seek Him to bear thee companie,
And, Robin, when ye come to die
Ye'll won aboon,
An' live at peace an' unity,
Ayont the moon.

. . . . . .

Some tell me, Rab, ye dinna' fear
To get a wean, an' curse and swear ;
I'm unco wae, my lad, to hear
O' sic a trade ;
Could I persuade ye to forbear
I wad be glad.

Fu' weel ye ken ye'll gang to hell
Gin ye persist in doing ill—
Wae's me, ye're hurlin' doon the hill
Withouten dread,
An' ye'll get leave to swear your fill
After ye're dead.

. . . . . .

There walth o' women ye'll get near,
But gettin' weans ye will forbear ;
Ye'll never say, " My bonnie dear,
Come, gie's a kiss "—
Nae kissing there—ye'll girn an' sneer,
An' ither hiss.

O, Rab ! lay by thy foolish tricks,
An' steer nae mair the female sex,
Or some day ye'll come through the pricks,
An' that ye'll see ;
Ye'll fin' hard livin' wi' Auld Nick,
I'm wae for thee.

But what comes this wi' sic a knell,
Amaist as loud as ony bell,
While it does mak' my conscience tell
Me what is true,
I'm but a ragget cowt mysel',
Owre sib to you.

We're owre like those wha think it fit
To stuff their noddles fu' o' wit,
An' yet content in darkness sit,
Wha shun the light,
To let them see down to the pit
That lang dark night.

But fareweel, Rab, I maun awa',
May He that made us keep us a',
For that wad be a dreadfu' fa',
An' hurt us sair;
Lad, ye wad never mend ava',
Sae, Rab, tak' care."

Of this Dr Wallace says—"A comparison of his MS. with 'The Epistle from a Tailor,' as printed by Stewart, shows that Simson, who reduced the original from 21 to 10 stanzas, was almost as much responsible for the composition as Walker himself."

Paterson says—"Tom was a burgher, and, though a poet, was a respectable, honest individual, and a man of piety, hence the strain in which he chose to lecture Burns. The Tailor's Epistle had been despatched for several weeks, and still no answer from Burns. What could be the matter? Had his Bardship taken the well-meant advice amiss? In vain did Walker account for the silence of the Poet, and he had more than once expressed his surprise to his friend William Simson, who had seen the production before it was forwarded to Mossgiel. The schoolmaster, who seems to have been a wit in his way, immediately conceived the idea of working on the credulity of the tailor, and of enjoying a laugh at his expense. He accordingly evoked the Muse, and produced the reply, 'What ails ye now,' &c. To this Mr Simson appended the signature 'Robert Burns,' and despatched it to the tailor at Pool. Though he may have been supposed to smart under the castigation, Tom Walker was excessively proud of the imagined reply of Burns, and lost no time in walking over to Ochiltree to show the dominie the epistle. It required all the gravity of the latter to prevent a disclosure. He succeeded, however, and it is questionable if ever the tailor was apprised of the true author of the reply. Certainly the public

is not aware of it. Happening to meet Burns not long after this, Simson informed him of the liberty he had taken with his name. 'You did well,' said the Poet, laughing. 'You have thrashed the tailor much better than I could have done.' The two foregoing epistles have found their way into several editions of Burns's works. The reply is generally published as a genuine production of the Poet, and it has even been surmised that the letter to the tailor was also his composition. The world, though it may be sceptical, is now (1840) in possession of the real history of the epistles—the one the effusion of Thos. Walker, Tailor, the other of William Simson, Schoolmaster at that time in Ochiltree."

Paterson goes on to say that besides the above direct testimony of Patrick Simson, various other circumstances corroborate the fact, and quotes Cromek in his edition of *Selected Scottish Songs*, 1810, who, in referring to the two epistles, says of the tailor's, after quoting a verse of it, "Is this the poetry of Robert Burns?" Then follows, he adds, what is *called* Robert Burns's answer to the aforesaid tailor, and adds that Cromek appears to have judged correctly. If this be so, as Dr Wallace says, why did Wm. Simson not contradict Stewart, who published it as Burns's 14 years before Simson died? With all due deference to the opinion of Paterson, influenced no doubt by having the story from the lips of "Winsome Willie's" brother Patrick, and by Cromek, who was perhaps displeased at the *Quarterly* when reviewing his *Reliques of Burns* in 1809 incidentally alluding to Stewart's book in terms of commendation, we think Burns wrote the reply. In our opinion none of the pieces of Wm. Simson show the same genius as the epistle does. Compare it with the tailor's own epistle to Burns and note the difference. Again, we think it impossible that Wm. Simson could go into the detail that is given of the procedure of the Session of Mauchline. No doubt it treats of an incident in the lives of Elizabeth Paton and Burns, which would not have employed the pen of the Poet had not the Ochiltree tailor, in the character of moral censor, provoked Burns to reply in the manner he did. The subject is handled with a master hand, and the touch of genius runs through it all.

James Fisher, the Blind Musician.

Although James Fisher was a contemporary of the three other Ochiltree men previously treated on in this article, no correspondence appears to have existed between him and Burns. As Burns, however, seems to have been a favourite theme in rhyme between Fisher and the other Ochiltree poets, it will give an idea of the kind of life and amusements of the villagers around Mauchline in Burns's day to include him in the present article. Of course, Burns had become notorious in the countryside in many ways from his attacks upon the clergy, and he was also beginning to enter on his fame. It was also natural that he, as the sun of the world's poetry, should have the smaller orbs revolving around him, and that when they did not keep their proper distance and came too near by rhyming criticisms of his movements they should be scorched by his satiric genius. Not only was he a fruitful theme for the Ochiltree poets, but for others as well, such as Saunders Tait, who lived in Tarbolton. Fisher was born in Galloway, or on its confines, about 1759, the year that Burns was born. When two years of age he lost his sight through smallpox, then a very prevalent disease. At an early age he turned his attention to music as a means of earning his livelihood. He came to Ochiltree in 1788, about the time William Simson left for Old Cumnock. He resided in Ochiltree for many years, and had the reputation of being a person of unblemished character. He was an excellent musician, and indispensable at all the weddings and rockings in the parish and for miles out of it. He must have been like Archibald M'Alpine, the Blind Fiddler of Mauchline, who in later years officiated in a like capacity for the same district. Fisher also acquired a taste for poetry as well as music, and spent a considerable part of his spare time in cultivating the Muses, as he published several editions of his poems. One, published in Dumfries in 1792, entitled *Poems on Various Subjects*, has for its chief attraction a series of "Familiar Epistles between the Author and Thomas Walker, the Tailor Poet." They, as we said before, mark the era of Burns, and give an idea of the feeling entertained towards Burns by the

smaller brethren of the Muse in his own immediate neighbourhood. In his introductory epistle to Tom Walker, Fisher proceeds in a very laudatory strain :—

"Wow man ! ye hae some unco turns,
I heard some things ye sent to Burns,
In whilk ye gic him gey ill pirns
To red, I think ;
But what they were my muse adjourns
To tell distinct.

Ye're no like some that I could name,
To please the wicked mak' their theme,
But Tam, what though they raise their fame
Amang the race !
They in the main are unco lame
When scant o' grace.

But Tam, sic warks let us forbear
Our time is not to be lang here,
We to anither shore maun steer
When this life's doon ;
O may it be to yon blest sphere,
Ayont the moon.

"Ochiltree, Feb. 11th, 1789."

Tom replies in a complimentary way to Fisher, and also "goes for" Burns, finishing up with—

"Saints now-a-days may weep and mourn.
To think how ages yet unborn
Will see religion turned to scorn
By Robin's books,
An' a' the Bible reft an' torn
By clergy fouks.

"Hill of Ochiltree, March 25th, 1789."

Fisher replies in verse, stating that the first thing he did when he got his last lines, "E'en straught awa', Tam, owre the gate, an' shawed them to our neebor Pate" (Patrick Simson), and concludes with the verse :—

"I ken few like ye onywhere,
Ye're sic a dainty chiel an' rare—
Wi' ony bard ye may compare
That I do ken,
Let me, when ye hae time to spare,
Ken how ye fen."

Tom Walker gave a second reply :—

"I got your letter, honest Jamie,
Wow man ! an unco lift ye gie me ;
How hie a ferlie would ye hae me !
Come let me doun,
Or otherwise ye must get to me
An air balloon."

He goes on in the same strain, complaining about having been made too much of, and finishes with :—

"The first time ye gang owre the gate,
Gie my kin' compliments to Pate,
Wha, when I meet him soon or late,
Aye sport gies me—
I scarce e'er saw a fallow yet
Sae fu' o' glee."

—a happy disposition which Mr J. Paterson vouches for on visiting Patrick Simson when he was over 70 years of age.

The only verses of Fisher's of any merit are those in answer to Main's celebrated song of "Logan Kirk," which, first sung at Vauxhall, London, had become deservedly popular :—

"Sweet nymph that sat on Logan plains,
An' sang of late, in mournfu' strains,
There's news in town your heart will raise,
An' mak' you blythe on Logan braes,

Auld Kath'rine's come to peacefu' terms,
An' Britain's laying down her arms ;
An' your braw lad has changed his claes,
An's comin' down to Logan braes.

Resolved hereafter to abide
Wi' you at hame, by Logan side,
To herd the sheep and gather slaes,
An' daut his dear on Logan braes.

Sae now be blythe, ye'll come nae mair
Alane, frae either kirk or fair ;
But wi' your lad, in lo'esome gays,
Will pass the time on Logan braes."

Fisher published other two books in prose—*Meditations on a Spring Day* and *Meditations on a Winter Day*. He removed from Ochiltree about 1809 to the borders of England. He also composed a number of tunes for the violin. Besides Walker, he

had for correspondents Lapraik, Gavin Dalzell of Old Cumnock, and Joseph Cochrane of Strathaven, other rhymers who flourished at that prolific period. The commotion caused by the "King o' a' the Core" (Burns) in the countryside would doubtless incite many to become poetasters.

There is one other individual in the district who tilted at Burns in rhyme like the Knight of La Manca and with as much success—Alexander Tait, the Tarbolton poet, but as he would take an article by himself, and had no connection with Ochiltree, we only mention his name.

Sufficient will be seen from the foregoing to show that Burns was the butt of most of the poetic fry, probably out of envy of his brilliant abilities, and a desire to revenge the scathing expressions he gave utterance to when dealing with the men and manners of his time.

There is one other poet whose name it would be inexcusable to omit—Sir Alexander Boswell, Bart. of Auchinleck, the author of many fine songs, among them "Jenny's Bawbee," "Jenny dang the Weaver,"* and "Gude nicht, and joy be wi' ye a.'" It was he who, almost single-handed, attained the success that resulted in the erection of the Burns Monument on the banks of the Doon, near Ayr. He had the high honour, on 25th January, 1820, as Deputy Grand Master of the Mother Lodge at Kilwinning, of laying the foundation-stone of the Monument with the highest Masonic honours, amid the plaudits of a vast multitude of spectators. His rhyming propensities were afterwards the cause of his death, through a duel with James Stuart of Dunearn at Auchentrool, in Fife, the cause of quarrel being some verses that appeared in the *Sentinel*, a Glasgow newspaper.

* Edward Miller, a weaver in Ochiltree, had a 4-loomed shop near the foot of the village, where he carried on an extensive business. He died, and his widow employed a man named John Bryden to look after the business. John, thinking it was hardly good enough to be only foreman, married the widow and entered into possession of the business. Mrs Bryden also died, and John again entered the married state with a Miss Janet Watt. It was on this that Sir Alexander Boswell, Bart., wrote "Jenny dang the Weaver." Mr James Tennant has seen Janet Watt's teaspoons, which are still in the possession of a descendant of hers in Ochiltree.

In conclusion, we may be allowed to say that after a perusal of this article lovers of Burns will come to the conclusion that had the Ochiltree worthies never lived and moved and had their being, many fine poems of Burns would never have been written. Among them is one of his best, and perhaps one of his worst from a certain point of view. The former was drawn from Burns in his best and most sympathetic mood, the latter is in his wildest and most rollicking vein. For the one we have to thank William Simson, for the other Tom Walker must be held responsible.

THOS. KILLIN.

[We are indebted to Mr James Tennant for supplying the photographs at considerable trouble and expense.]

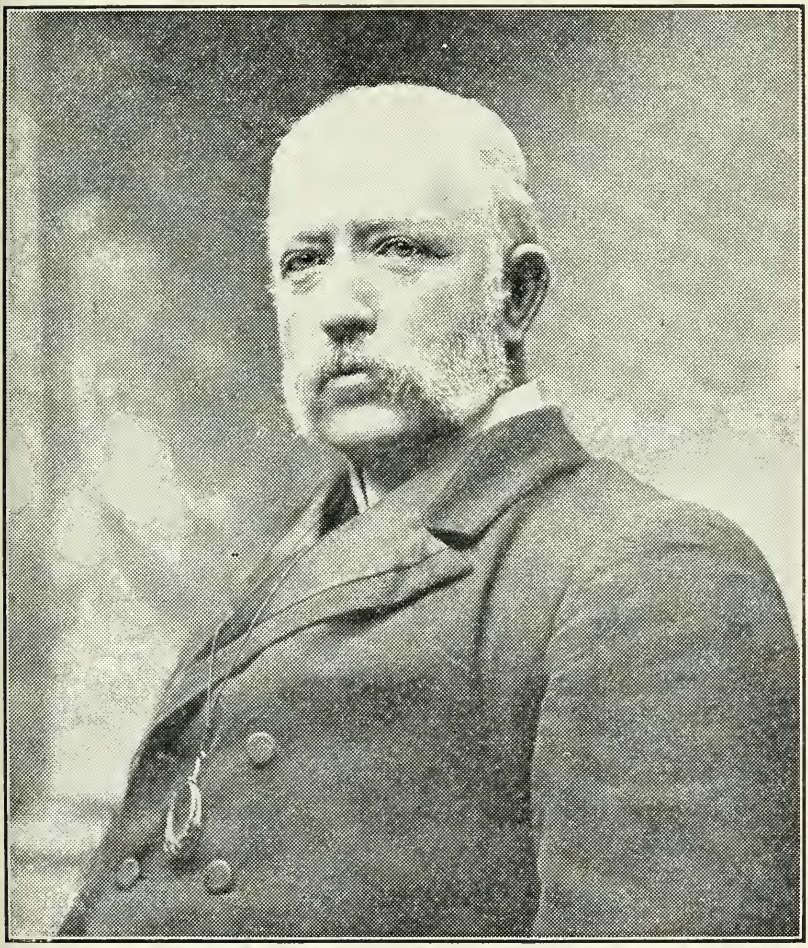
IN MEMORIAM:

DAVID MACKAY, PRESIDENT OF THE BURNS FEDERATION.

IT is with feelings of the deepest sorrow that we announce the death of ex-Provost David Mackay, which occurred at Kilmarnock on Thursday, 27th September, 1906. For a considerable time he had suffered from Bright's disease, and during a lingering illness he was a patient sufferer, retaining a cheerful spirit up till the last. Deceased was one of the ablest and most popular citizens of Kilmarnock, and he has left behind him a splendid record of useful public service, which will long keep his memory fresh and green in the town. He was in the 62nd year of his age.

For more than a quarter of a century he was prominently identified with the public life of Kilmarnock. He entered the Town Council as a representative of the Third Ward in 1881, and served for two triennial terms, retiring in 1887 owing to the demands made upon his time and energies by the growth of his own business. In 1891, however, he was again returned for the Third Ward, and a year later he was elected to the office of Town Treasurer, which he held for three years, and it is acknowledged on all hands that he conducted the financial affairs of the burgh with prudence and economy. It was on his initiative that the Town Council adopted the scheme whereby the working-classes could invest small sums from their savings with the Corporation and receive a higher rate of interest than that which is paid by the Post Office. On completing his term as Treasurer in 1895, Mr Mackay was promoted to the Provostship, and he filled the civic chair for six years, finally retiring from the Council in 1901. As municipal head of the burgh he distinguished himself in an

eminent degree. By a combination of circumstances, the six years of his Provostship were marked by exceptional municipal



Mr DAVID MACKAY.

activity and brilliance. It embraced the celebration of Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee, the mourning over Her Majesty's death, and the Proclamation of King Edward ; the demonstrations

at the send-off and welcome home to the local contingents who had volunteered for active service in the South African War; and the celebrations over the relief of Ladysmith and Mafeking, the capture of Pretoria, and the ultimate termination of hostilities between the British and the Boers. On the occasion of Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee the Provost had the honour of being presented at Court, and subsequently received one of Her Majesty's commemorative medals.

Perhaps the most outstanding event during Provost Mackay's term of office was the erection of the Dick Institute. This magnificent gift to the community of Kilmarnock was undoubtedly the direct outcome of his personal friendship with the late Mr James Dick, and it came as a fitting corollary to the exertions which the Provost, while he was Town Treasurer, had put forth to secure the adoption of the Public Libraries Act in Kilmarnock. Through his influence there afterwards came the gifts of the Dick Institute—the valuable geological collection of the late Mr James Thomson, F.G.S., and a large portion of the unique collection of curios which belonged to the late Dr Hunter-Selkirk, of Braidwood. It is difficult, indeed, to appraise the value of his services to Kilmarnock as a member of the Town Council, but it may suffice to say that every scheme which was promoted for the wellbeing and prosperity of the burgh received his hearty support, and in many instances the inception of large and progressive undertakings was due to his shrewdness and sagacity.

Shortly after his retiral from the Town Council, Provost Mackay was entertained at a banquet and presented with a magnificent testimonial in recognition of his personal worth and public services. From the Town Council he received a beautiful dessert service consisting of five massive bowls in solid silver, and from the general public a splendid three-quarter length portrait of himself in oils, painted by Sir James Guthrie, the president of the Royal Scottish Academy, a replica of which is hung in the Town Hall. The presentation was made by Colonel Denny, then member of Parliament for the Kilmarnock Burghs, who, in a warmly appreciative speech, very accurately summarised his

estimable personal worth and valuable public services ; and his glowing tribute was heartily endorsed by one of the most representative and influential gatherings ever held in the town.

The public work of Provost Mackay was not, however, confined to the municipal arena. Deeply interested in educational affairs, he sat for several terms in the School Board, of which he was chairman for some time previous to the conclusion of the last triennial term. No one was better fitted to undertake such a duty. He had a good grasp of educational affairs, and was always animated by a strong desire to see the schools of the burgh properly equipped and maintained in a thoroughly efficient state. He was a Justice of Peace and an honorary Sheriff-Substitute for Ayrshire.

In politics Mr Mackay was a staunch Conservative, and an ardent worker on behalf of his party. In conjunction with us, he organised the local Conservative party into one powerful Association, of which the writer was president for the first three years of its existence. The erection of the Conservative Club in Sturrock Street was very largely due to his zeal and enthusiasm, and for many years he acted as president of the Conservative Association. During our term of office the Conservatives had the satisfaction of seeing the representation of the Kilmarnock Burghs wrested from the Liberal party by the return of Provost Sturrock, the Conservative candidate, and subsequently by Colonel Denny as the Unionist representative. But, although he had strong political opinions, he was far from being narrow-minded or bigoted. He abhorred the introduction of personalities in political campaigning, his motto being "A fair and square fight, and let the best man win."

To a charming personality was added quite exceptional gifts and attainments. He was an eloquent and effective platform speaker, and imbued with fine literary, artistic, and musical tastes. He was an enthusiastic admirer of the ploughman bard, and was one of the trio who originated the Burns Federation, of which he was the president for several years, and at the last annual meeting, held in Kilmarnock quite recently, he was unanimously re-elected

to that position in his absence. For a time he was secretary of the Kilmarnock Burns Club, and he has also filled the presidential

Captain SNEDDON, Hon. Secy. of Federation.

chair. As an amateur artist Mr Mackay produced some excellent work, and paintings from his brush were always to be found in the various exhibitions held by the Fine Arts Institute and the Kilmarnock Art Club. Indeed, it has often been observed by

competent judges that if he had chosen art as a profession he would have attained to a position of signal eminence among the artists of Scotland. The artistic temperament runs in the Mackay family. The Provost's late brother, Mr Alexander S. Mackay, was a notable portrait painter, and his only surviving brother, Mr Jas. M. Mackay, has achieved considerable distinction as a landscape painter. It may be mentioned here that the historian of Kilmarnock and the author of "Be kind to Auld Grannie," Mr Archibald Mackay, was their uncle. Strong in social qualities, Mr Mackay was a generous entertainer, and many happy gatherings have taken place under his hospitable roof.

Deceased was a Freemason, and for many years took a warm interest in Masonic affairs. He was initiated in the Rifle Lodge, Edinburgh, afterwards affiliated with St. Marnock's Lodge, Kilmarnock, No. 109. In January, 1902, he delivered a lecture on Burns to Canongate Lodge, Edinburgh, on which occasion he was made an honorary member and presented with a diploma.

Amid his multifarious duties Mr Mackay found time for outdoor recreation. In his earlier days he was a good bowler, and when the frosty winter came he was one of the most enthusiastic of curlers. Occasionally also he made a round of the golf links at Troon. A keen sportsman and disciple of Isaac Walton, along with others he held the fishing and shooting rights for some years at Barskimming, and many a pleasant day he spent with his rod on the banks of the River Ayr.

The late Provost was twice married. His first wife was a daughter of the late Mr Charles Armstrong, by whom he had one son and six daughters, three of whom predeceased him. As his second wife he married the widow of Mr James Dick, Glasgow, by whom he is survived. The funeral, which took place on Monday, October 1st, was one of the most impressive ever witnessed in Kilmarnock. The route from his residence at Huenden to the High Church burying-ground was lined with thousands of spectators standing in a continuous line of four and five deep, a tribute by the citizens of Kilmarnock which, as remarked by one of the oldest among them, neither wealth nor rank could have commanded.

For the long period of 35 years he was our bosom friend and close companion. Verily, he was a man of rare natural gifts and graces, which under any environment would have achieved for him high honour and distinction. Possessed of a strong and keen intellect, allied with the faculty of converging a most perfectly balanced judgment on the vital points of any subject to which he directed his attention, his conclusions were invariably sound and far-seeing; and once his opinions were formed he carried them to a practical issue with characteristic tact, determination, and perseverance, and yet with a fairness and unselfish consideration which never failed to secure the respect of his opponents. Books were to him not so much dictators of thought as whetstones for independent investigation, nor would he commit himself to any passing opinion, however authoritatively set forth, without testing it in the alembic of his own mind. Quick in apprehension, he nevertheless looked with calm deliberation at all sides of a question before final judgment, and, as a consequence, his expressed opinion carried its due weight with it. His robust common sense was seldom at fault, even when called upon to decide instantly upon the merits of seemingly contending facts, and, however forcibly he at times expressed his ideas, he was ever forbearing and courteous, the sound alone of his silver-stringed voice disarming opposition and restoring peace and harmony where dispute threatened discord. He had a command of language simple, direct, and telling, which at once secured the rapt attention of an audience. The hurry and pressure of a commercial life left little opportunity for developing the literary powers which he undoubtedly possessed in common with other members of his family, but the hereditary artistic talent was too strong to be repressed. But great and diverse as were his talents, the charm of the man lay in his personality. The combination of qualities which formed his character is rarely met with. He was truly "the manly heart with love o'erflowing" to all he came in contact with. He was the life and soul of every social function, and the most pleasant and genial of companions when business cares gave place to relaxation. There was no trace of acidity in

his humour even in his most rollicking moods, the merry twinkle of the eye which preceded a sally betokening the harmless fun which prompted it. Every good object had his support, and no tale of wrong or woe ever fell unheeded on his ear. His hand

D. M'NAUGHT, Editor of "Burns Chronicle."

was as open as his heart, and many whom he relieved in the hour of need have cause to bless his memory. The fine presence, the gentlemanly bearing, the frank and kindly smile, the beaming eye, the unfailing good humour, the hearty and courtly greeting he had for every one, both gentle and simple, will ever remain in

memory's mirror, the treasured silhouette of as true-hearted and square-built a man on every side of him as ever left the hands of the Creator. He was the very soul of honour, business probity, and integrity, and as ardent a worshipper of truth and cordial hater of shams as his favourite poet, Robert Burns. These are not vain words. He has gone to his rest, but not without leaving a brilliant and spotless record behind him by which the Kilmarnock generations to come shall rightly judge him. Peace to his ashes! His death has caused an aching void which will not soon be filled up.

When nearing his end he evinced the most consuming interest in the steps which were being taken to ensure the preservation of the Auld Brig o' Ayr, and so intense was his solicitude that we had again and again to assure him that we would take part in Lord Rosebery's meeting as his representative. At our last interview, though he well knew he was dying, he affected to feel so much better that he would be able to attend the Ayr meeting, yet with unconscious contradiction he made us renew our pledge, and took farewell of us in these words—"Good-bye; fight for the right as we've often done before, and I'll be there, my good old friend: I'll be there!"

AT THE LAST.

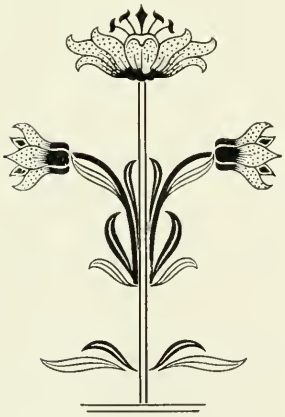
Prone upon the bed of death,
Glazing eye, and laboured breath,
Nerveless arm, and wasted frame,
Yet the manly soul the same:
"Lay your hand in mine," said he,
"Pledge enough 'twixt you and me;
Speak at Ayr, and speak out straight,
On the Auld Brig's doubtful fate—
Straight and strong, as I intend,
For I'll be there, my good old friend:
I'll be there!"

Then the weary eyelids fell,
And he slumbered for a spell:
When they lifted, clear and bright
Glowed his eyes with wonted light,
And he spake in wonted tone,
With that smile that was his own;

"In the forum or the fight,
Trust in God and do the right,
True and steadfast to the end,
And I'll be there, my good old friend:
I'll be there."

At the hour when comes the day,
And night's shadows flee away,
Passed he then from mortal sight,
Passed from Darkness into Light:
Changed the cerement of clay
For that which never shall decay.
If there's in the Great Unknown
Mansions for the good alone,
Whose noble deeds gain Heaven's commend,
He is there, my good old friend:
He is there!

EDITOR.



ODE TO ROBERT BURNS.

25TH JANUARY, 1907.

My muse again this natal night
Awakes to sing the mem'ry bright
Of Scotia's peerless son,
Whose works, well known in every clime,
Will yield delight as long as time
Its onward course shall run.

His song is not an idle dream,
But feeling fitted to the theme:
Each line with genius fired
Makes every heart with rapture thrill,
And own the power, the matchless skill,
With which he was inspired.

Like as the force of Nature yields
The crops which fructify the fields
In summer's glorious prime,
So on him Nature had bestowed
The light divine which ever glowed
In poesy sublime.

His web of song is cloth of gold,
More lustrous in its every fold
Than ever minstrel wove.
When he depicts the sighing swain
We hear in each impassioned strain
The very voice of love.

O! thou undying, brilliant soul,
Thy name shall live while ages roll
And rivers seek the sea:
The world for ever will proclaim
Thy immortality and fame
Till time has ceased to be.

JOHN DRAKE,
Poet Laureate, Burns Federation.

CLUB NOTES.

[*COMMUNICATED.*]

BRIDGETON BURNS CLUB

(Instituted 1870).

ANNIVERSARY REPORT—JANUARY, 1906.

The Annual Business Meeting of the Club was held in the side room, Mechanics' Hall, Canning Street, Calton, on the evening of Monday, 22nd January, 1906—Dr James Devon, President, in the chair.

The Directors much regret to record the death of the Rev. Wm. Leggatt, which took place on 12th November last. The Rev. Mr Leggatt was one of the first members of the Club, and was President in the year 1879-80. He was a long time Secretary, and since he resigned that position he was appointed an Honorary Life Member of the Directorate. Up to the last he took a lively and active interest in the affairs of the Club, and did everything in his power to further its interests. The Club has lost one of its most ardent supporters in him.

The Club competed in the Glasgow and District Burns Clubs Bowling Tournament. Three rinks entered for the M'Lennan Cup, but we were not successful in retaining the trophy.

The Summer Excursion took place on 8th June last to Maybole, Kirkoswald, &c. There was a good turnout of the members of the Club and their friends, and a most enjoyable day was spent by everyone.

The Directors have received an invitation from the members of the Rosebery Burns Club, and will visit that Club on 27th February, 1906.

The members of the Greenock Burns Club were the guests of our Club on 31st October last, and a very pleasant evening was spent, a large number of the members and friends being present to welcome our guests.

COMPETITIONS.

Gold Medal Competition.—The piece selected this year was "The Brigs of Ayr." There being only one entrant for this competition, however, it was decided to withdraw the competition this year.

Senior Recitation Competition.—Twelve girls and five boys entered for this competition. The pupils were from Newlands, Whitehill, Quarry Brae, and Hozier Street Public Schools, and Shawlands Academy. The piece selected for the competition was "The Address to the De'il." The examiner, Mr John Forsyth, F.S.Sc., London, elocutionist, after hearing the various competitors, made the following awards:—Silver Medal, Agnes Linning, Newlands Public School; Second Prize, David Munro, Shawlands Academy. He also recommended the Directors to award a special prize to Flossie Watson, Whitehill School, who showed special merit. The Directors agreed to give the prize.

Junior Recitation Competition.—Three girls and five boys entered for this competition, all from Hozier Street Public School. The piece selected was "To a Haggis." After hearing the various competitors, Mr Forsyth awarded the First Prize to Matthew O'Hara.

Senior Singing Competitions.—The competitors in these competitions were from the following schools:—Rumford Street, Finnieston, Quarry Brae, Hozier Street, Rockvilla, Shawlands Academy, and Queen Mary Street. In the Senior Girls' competition there were eleven entrants, and in the Senior Boys' there were eight entrants. Mr George Newton acted as judge in the competitions, and, after hearing the various competitors, made the following awards:—Girls—Silver Medal, Lizzie Cowan, Hozier Street School; Second Prize, Helen Anderson, Quarry Brae School, and Chrissie Anderson, Rumford Street School, equal. The Directors agreed to give each a Second Prize of the same value. Boys—Silver Medal, Rankine Thomson, Shawlands Academy; Second Prize, John Barclay, Hozier Street School.

Junior Singing Competition.—Four girls and one boy from Hozier Street and Rumford Street Schools entered for this competition, and after hearing the various competitors, Mr Newton awarded the first prize to Janet Little, Rumford Street School.

Choir Singing Competition.—Five Choirs entered in this competition, representing Rumford Street, Finnieston, Rockvilla, Quarry Brae, and Hozier Street Schools. The piece selected by the examiner was "There was a Lad was born in Kyle." After a keen contest, Mr Newton awarded the Shield to Rumford Street School, and the Directors having agreed to award a small badge to the conductor of the Choir taking second place, Mr Newton awarded the prize to Mr Armstrong, the conductor of the Finnieston Public School Choir.

Annual Concert.—The Annual Concert and Presentation of Prizes in connection with the competitions held under the auspices of the Club was held in the Mechanics' Hall, Canning Street, on 22nd January. The competitors were from various schools in Glasgow, and were all under 15 years of age. This year's competitors were representative of the following schools:—Rumford Street, Finnieston, Rockvilla, Quarry Brae, Hozier Street, Queen Mary Street, Shawlands Academy, Newlands, and Whitehill. The competitions were held in the middle of December, and were keenly contested. The Silver Shield for the Choir Competition was again won by Rumford Street School, which has the honour of retaining the custody for another year.

Anniversary Dinner.—The Anniversary of Burns's Birthday was celebrated by a Dinner in the Arcade Café on 25th January. About 50 gentlemen were present. Dr James Devon presided, and Mr Peter White acted as Croupier.

SUNDERLAND BURNS CLUB.

Ninth Annual Report—April, 1906.

By comparing the years that have gone with the present year's work, we feel how much more we want the best men amongst us; indeed I am convinced that a limit of sixty members would be a great improvement upon our present

arrangement, when we have a nominal membership of, say, ninety, but actually subscribing members to the extent of sixty. It is obvious, as you must all be aware, that if we only return Federated members, then the surplus is not worth carrying. I leave the suggestion with you.

The affiliation of our members with the Burns Federation has proved a step in the right direction, and, I believe, is fully appreciated.

Our last Annual Meeting was a pleasant gathering. The various reports were well received, especially that of the Treasurer, showing the Club to be in a sound financial position, and having a good credit balance at its disposal. But money is not all: we want intellect, we want more reading and writing members, men who will improve themselves and help others by this simple process, for knowledge is power.

The Anniversary Dinner of 1906 was a great success. The Rev. Alex. Wylie Blue paid an eloquent tribute to the memory of Burns, and said:—"It was a pleasure to be there in response to the invitation. He was proud to have been asked to propose 'The Immortal Memory' by the members of the Sunderland Burns Club."

Owing to the alteration of the Victoria Hall, the Annual Concert was held in the Miners' Hall, Roker Avenue. This hall proved quite inadequate to accommodate the people desirous of attending the concert, with the result that large numbers had to be turned away, while those who were fortunate to gain admission were somewhat inconvenienced by the excessive crowd and the smallness of the hall.

It is pleasing to be able to report that the Concert held in Newcastle, under the joint management of the Northern Societies was also a great success, and as a result we will benefit as a Club thereby.

Neither the Conversazione nor the picnic has been held during the past year, but while we write there is every indication of the Picnic being revived during the present summer. The outings arranged in the past have been very pleasant indeed, and there seems to be no reason why, with a suitable place and day fixed, the outing should not be made very enjoyable.

The present issue of the *Chronicle* has fully maintained the high standard of excellence. The number of readers, I am pleased to state, has been increased, but not yet to the extent which the work deserves. The complete set of *Chronicles* added last year has been taken advantage of by the members for home reading, which is another evidence of the value of the Library with a librarian whose interest we all know and appreciate, and who will, I am certain, make the Library more popular than ever.

We started the year with fifty-four Federated members. During the year ten new members have joined, while two have brought themselves within the rules of the Federation, three have resigned, leaving our present strength sixty-three Federated members.

SYLLABUS, 1905-1906.

1905.			
Oct.	4.	President's Address	Mr R. Archibald.
,,	18.	Bonnie Prince Charlie (illustrated)	Rev. Al. Farquhar.
Nov.	1.	The Scots' Musical Museum	Mr W. Ogilvie.
,,	15.	Impressions of some of Byron's Poems ...	Mr R. C. Lyness.
Dec.	6.	Jessie Lewars	Mr W. H. Turner.
,,	20.	Whin Blooms	Mr J. F. Crooks.

1906.
Jan. 3. Musical Evening (open night)... ... ... Members.
,, 17. The Songs of Lady Nairne ... ... Mr G. Tawse.
,, 25. Annual Dinner (Palatine Hotel).
Feb. 6. Annual Scottish Concert (Miners' Hall).
,, 21. Poet Shelley .. .. Mr G. W. Gardiner.
Mar. 7. Sir Walter Scott ... ... Mr R. Chalmers.
,, 21. Company of Books ... ... Mr M. MacLennan.
April 4. Business Meeting.
May 2. Annual Meeting: Election of Officers.
Sept. 5. Business Meeting.

M NEILSON, *Hon. Secy.*

ROSEBERY BURNS CLUB, GLASGOW.

Founded 1885. Federated 1887.

The Club meets on Tuesday evenings, at eight o'clock, in the Alexandra Hotel, Bath Street, Glasgow.

SYLLABUS—SESSION 1906-1907.

1906.
Oct. 9. Smoking Symposium—President's Address (Mr William Allan).
,, 24. Visit to the Bridgeton Burns Club.
,, 30. Lecture, "Burns and the Deil"—Mr John Russell.
Nov. 13. Lecture, "Origin and History of the Glasgow Police Force"—Superintendent Ord.
,, 27. Lecture, "Peasant Poets of other Lands"—Mr Robert Hislop.
Dec. 11. Visit from the Greenock Burns Club (Literary and Smoking Symposium)—Mr John B. Freebairn, M.A.
,, 18. Ladies' Night—Mr John M'William, convener
1907.
Jan 15. Lecture, "Humorous Verse and Parody"—Mack Mahn.
,, 25. Anniversary Dinner—Mr George Eyre-Todd.
Feb. 1. Band of Hope Competition—Judges, Messrs Angus and Pollock.
,, 5. Lecture, "Lord Rosebery: A Literary Appreciation"—Mr Chas. F. M'Pherson.
Mar. 12. Lecture, "Highland Mary in Fact and Fiction"—Mr D. M'Naught.
,, 19. Gold Medal Competitive Concert—Ex-President Pollock, convener.
,, 26. Tattie-an'-Herrin' Supper.
April 30. Annual Business Meeting.

REV. DAVID MACRAE ON SCOTTISH SONGS.

Glasgow is the home of several admirable societies for the propagation of an interest in national literature and life, but none is, perhaps, so energetic in a public way as the Rosebery Burns Club, which, under the able presidency of Mr James Murray, and the genial secretaryship of Mr C. F. M'Pherson, 3 Holmhead Crescent, Cathcart, holds meetings regularly from September till April. A gold medal competition for ladies and gentlemen (amateurs) in singing and elocution has been promoted with the object of encouraging the study of the beautiful words and melodies and sentiments found in the Auld Scots Sangs, and this year's competition duly came off on Tuesday evening, 21st March, in Christian Institute, Bothwell Street.

That talented cleric-litterateur, the Rev. David Macrae, M.A., who presided, gave at the outset a masterly address. Amongst the duties which

the Scottish people owed to their country, he said, two of the most vital were to purge their national life from everything that tended to debase it, and to cultivate everything that helped to make it stronger, nobler, and more beautiful. This was the truest patriotism. They were met under the auspices of the Rosebery Burns Club, an organisation that served various valuable and patriotic purposes. Amongst these none was more valuable or more interesting than that which had inspired that gathering—namely, a contest for distinction in the singing of Scottish songs, and especially the songs of Burns. There should, he thought, be similar competitions in all their schools and colleges, along with competitive recitations from Scottish prose and poetry.

The competitions were then proceeded with. Four medals were offered for singing and two for elocution. Four ladies and four gentlemen competed for the singing prizes, and there were three competitors for the elocutionary awards. The singing prizes were awarded as follows:—Five-guinea gold medal, gifted by Mr D. F. Turnbull, Rosebery Burns Club, gained by Mr W. R. Macgregor, Bishopbriggs; second prize, gold medal, gained by Miss Mary M'G. Brown, Maryhill; gold medal, awarded by plebiscite of audience, gained by Miss Jessie M. Scott, Motherwell; and silver medal, also gained by Miss Scott. The elocutionary prizes were awarded as follows:—Three-guinea gold medal, gifted by Mr Ed. Gilchrist, Rosebery Burns Club, gained by Mr Alex. Pollock, Hutchesontown; and silver medal, gained by Miss Jessie May, Govanhill. The judges were: Singing—Mr James Summers, ex-president, Glasgow Choral Union; Mr Adam Runcie, Glasgow Choral Union; and Mr George Angus, past president, Rosebery Burns Club. Elocution—Messrs William Crann and John Forsyth, F.S.Sc.

Miss Ina Brown, eminent soprano, and Mr William Walker, well-known tenor, obliged with a couple of songs during the evening

After the prizes had been gracefully handed over to the successful competitors by Miss Murray, daughter of the president of the Club, Mr Alex. Pollock, convener of Competitions Committee, proposed votes of thanks to that lady, to the donors of the prizes, to the judges, and to the chairman. In doing so, he remarked that the Rosebery and, he believed, other Burns Clubs in the city would be glad to provide suitable prizes for children's competitions in connection with Bands of Hope and kindred organisations. Perhaps it was the case that the lack of teaching of Scottish history and the encouragement of the Scottish songs amongst the school children was due to the too exacting demands of the Scottish Education Department's code.

The Chairman acknowledged the compliment, and called for a vote of thanks to the Rosebery Burns Club, the singing of "Auld Lang Syne" terminating a very pleasant evening's entertainment.

THE NINETY BURNS CLUB, EDINBURGH.

The Club was instituted in 1890. Its founders had two main objects in view, viz.—(1) The perpetuation and extension of the Burns cult; and (2) the promotion of social intercourse amongst admirers of the Poet.

The Membership was originally limited to 90—in keeping with the name—but before many years had passed it was found necessary to extend the list

to 180, and allowing for the inevitable changes which must occur, it is satisfactory to be able to say that the Membership at present numbers 168, inclusive of 20 Honorary and 7 Life Members. Some time ago the Club inaugurated a movement with the following objects :– (1) To erect a Memorial Stone to mark the grave of Jean Lorimer (Burns's "Chloris," and "Lassie wi' the lint-white locks") in Preston Street Graveyard; and (2) to restore, if found practicable, the tomb of "Clarinda" in Canongate Churchyard. With the kind assistance of kindred Societies sufficient money was raised to enable the Club to erect a handsome Celtic Cross in grey granite, with appropriate inscription, as a memorial to Jean Lorimer, thus accomplishing the first part of the task undertaken. The event evoked considerable interest in Burns circles both in this country and America, and the Memorial has since been much admired by numerous visitors. As soon as practicable it is intended to proceed with the second part of the scheme—the restoration of "Clarinda's" tomb in Canongate Churchyard. Various circumstances have combined to prevent the Club from carrying this through. The project is, however, still on the programme of the Club, and will, doubtless, before long be accomplished. But additional funds are required, and contributions will continue to be received by Mr Peter Smellie, solicitor, 69 Henderson Row, the Hon. Treasurer of the Fund.

The various meetings of the Session have all been marked by good attendances and much enthusiasm—especially the Annual Dinner, when the toast of "The Immortal Memory" was proposed by Will. C. Smith, Esq., K.C., in one of the ablest addresses of the year. Sheriff Christopher N. Johnston, K.C., proved an acceptable chairman on that occasion.

The Club Excursion to Moffat on Victoria Day was a most enjoyable outing. Mention should also be made of the Second Conversazione held earlier in the Session in Messrs Ferguson and Foresters' Saloon. This endeavour to bring the ladies more closely into touch and sympathy with the Burns cult, it is hoped, will be warmly supported by the members, so that the "Conversazione" may be reckoned as an annual event in future.

Obituary.

The Club has been deprived by death of the services of a number of highly-honoured Members who did much to place the Club in the position it now occupies. Foremost amongst those was Mr D. Lawson Johnstone, an early President and one of the Founders of the Club, and who, as Secretary in later years, was untiring in his zeal for the Ninety; and Major M'Cartney, who could trace a relationship with the Poet, and whose genial presence will be much missed; while Mr Logan, Mr Robbie, Mr Main, Mr M'Intosh, and Mr M'Kinnon leave blanks which will be felt for long.

GLASGOW CENTRAL BURNS CLUB.

This club—instituted 1905; federated 18th August, 1905—has had a successful year, and the membership is nearly 300. The Club Rooms at 3 Dundas Street, which are large and well equipped, are open daily, and are largely used by the members and their friends. At the Anniversary Meeting

held on 26th January the Immortal Memory was proposed by ex-Councillor J. Jeffrey Hunter in eloquent and moving terms. In addition to the Literary and Musical evenings, there have been billiard and whist tournaments, which have proved considerably successful. The Winter Session was opened with a Smoking Concert on 5th October, and the first Literary evening was given on 2nd November, when Mr D. C. Wardrop gave one of his interesting and humorous lectures. Literary and Musical evenings on 1st and 3rd Fridays of each month during the Winter Season. Secretary and Treasurer—John Kinney, 3 Dundas Street (City). Special features of Club—To promote the study of Burns's Works and other Literary and Social subjects connected with Scotland.

GREENOCK BURNS CLUB.

Club Meetings are held in Club Room, 36 Nicholson Street, at 8 p.m.

SYLLABUS—Session 1906-7.

1906.
Oct. 31. Annual Meeting. Election of Office-bearers, &c.
Nov. 21. Ladies' Night. Lecture, "Human Art in Human History"—Mr J. Fraser Paton.
,, 30. St. Andrew's Night.
Dec. 19. Lecture, "Béranger and Burns"—M. Hector Rey, B.es L., B.es Sc. (Paris).

1907.
Jany. 9. Lecture, "The Cosmic Spirit of Burns"—Mr David Lowe, Glasgow.
,, 25. 105th Annual Celebration.
Feb. 20. Lecture—Mr D. T. Holmes, B.A.
Mar. 20. Ladies' Night. Glasgow Concert Party, introduced by Mr Ernest Brown.
Apr. 20. Quarterly Meeting. President's Closing Address. Smoking Concert.

BONNYBRIDGE BURNS CLUB.

Under the auspices of the Bonnybridge Burns Club, a sum amounting to £5 has been subscribed towards defraying the expenses for the preservation of the Auld Brig o' Ayr.

CARLTON BURNS CLUB, GLASGOW.

SYLLABUS—Session 1906-7.

1906.
Oct. 2. Business Meeeting.
Nov. 6. Harmony—Contributor, Mr W. J. Straiton.
Dec. 4. Essay, "Tempest"—Mr William Moffatt, M.A.

1907.
Jan. 8. Harmony—Contributors, Messrs Jas. Ballantine and Geo. Brown.
,, 25. Anniversary Dinner.
Feb. 5. Essay, "Edgar Allan Poe"—Mr J. H. Pearson.
Mar. 5. Smoking Concert—Contributor, Mr Robert Fyfe.
April 2. Essay, "A Literary Causerie"—Mr Frederic Kent.
May —. Summer Outing.

BOLTON BURNS CLUB.

The Annual Dinner was celebrated by this Club in the Swan Hotel, Bolton, on January 25th. We reproduce the first and last verses of a song, entitled "The Days o' Auld Lang Syne," by Mr J. Johnston, which was contributed during the evening :—

"Ance mair aroun' the festive board
We greet the faces kin'
O' friens wha hae been leal and true
Since the days o' Auld Lang Syne.
O' Auld Lang Syne, my freens,
O' Auld Lang Syne ;
Hoo dear the ties that link us to
The days o' Auld Lang Syne !

This nicht we honour pay the Bard,
Whose name in love we shrine ;
And this our pledge—'To Robert Burns,
And the friens o' Auld Lang Syne !'
'For Auld Lang Syne, my dear,
For Auld Lang Syne,
We'll tak' a cup o' kindness yet,
For Auld Lang Syne.'"

The following greeting was forwarded to other Burns Clubs :—

"In Scotland's galaxy ae name
Shines solar-bricht,
An' a' that—
'Tis Burns, whose memory and fame
We toast this nicht,
An' a that.
For a' that, an' a' that,
Though sundered far, an' a' that,
A world-wide throng doth him acclaim
Great King-o'-hearts, an' a that.

J. J."

BURNS CLUB COMPETITIONS AT AYR.

The Ayr Burns Club, with the consent of the School Board and the co-operation of the teachers, instituted a competition in Scottish singing and recitation among the school children of the town. On Saturday evening, 24th March, the final competitions were held in the Town Hall, before a large attendance of the public. Mr Hugh M'Nabb, conductor of Ayr Choral Union, judged the singing ; Mr David Murray, rector of Kilmarnock Academy, judged the reciting ; and Mr T. R. Stuart, rector of Irvine Academy, judged the essay writing, the subject of which was "Burnsiana of Ayr and Neighbourhood." Provost Allan, chairman of the Burns Club, who presided, stated that a sum of £20 had been voted by the club for the competition, and additional prizes had been provided by Mr Thos. Duncan, treasurer of the club. The principal prize-winners in the various sections were :—

Singing—Under ten years—1, Susan Bowman, Smith's Institution ; 2, Margaret Wilson, Lady Jane Hamilton's School. Ten and under thirteen

years—1, David Duff, Russell Street School; 2, James Sands, Newtonhead School. Over thirteen—1, John Brown, Russell Street School; 2, Mary M'Nair, Newtonhead School. Recitation—Under ten—1, Kate Burnett, Smith's Institution; 2, Jas. Tannock, Russell Street School. Ten and under thirteen—1, Hannah Zive, Smith's Institution; 2, Jean Meek, Russell Street School. Over thirteen—1, Douglas M'Phie, Smith's Institution; 2, Phemie Niven, Smith's Institution. The audience prize for singing was voted to Susan Fulton, Russell Street School.

BURNS CONCERT AT NORTH BERWICK.

A new departure was made by the North Berwick Burns Club in the way of a public concert, which was very successfully held in the Foresters' Hall on Friday, 23rd March, and at which handsome prizes were awarded to school children for the singing and reciting of Burns's songs and poems. Councillor W. L. Blyth, president of the club, presided over a crowded audience. The junior first prizes for singing and reciting were both carried off by Master Willie Dickson, and the juvenile first prize winners were Misses Molly Walton and Jeannie Scott for singing and reciting respectively. The youthful performers were repeatedly applauded, and the awards gifted by the Burns Club were presented to the successful competitors by Mrs W. L. Blyth. A programme of an exceptionally varied character was rendered during the evening. At the close Rev. J. R. Burt complimented the Burns Club on providing so pleasing an entertainment.

NOTTINGHAM SCOTTISH ASSOCIATION.

Annual Report—25th April.

The year started with a membership of 209. Through the removal of members from the district and those whose membership has lapsed, the total on the roll at the end of the financial year, 31st March, with the addition of new members, now stands at 222.

The Ordinary Meetings of the Association have been held in Room 75, Mechanics' Institution, on the second and fourth Tuesdays of every month from October to March. The meetings have been interesting, the audiences large and appreciative.

The Association is greatly indebted to Professor Carr, of the University College, who contributed an interesting and instructive Lantern Lecture entitled "The Scenery and Geology of Scotland," and also to Mr Arthur Black, of the Nottingham Camera Club, who gave a beautifully illustrated Lantern Lecture entitled "Rambles in Derbyshire."

The programme for the evening of 27th February was provided by Mr George M'Lachlan and friends from Derby, who gave a descriptive and musical illustration of "Sir Walter Scott, His Poetry and Song."

The special events during the year were: New Year's Dance, 1st January; Annual Burns's Supper, 25th January; the Annual Ball, 8th March; Whist Drive, 30th March.

A company of about 80 foregathered in the Victoria Station Hotel to celebrate the anniversary of the Poet's birth. The "Immortal Memory" was proposed by the Rev. A. R. Henderson, M.A., in a most impressive and sympathetic manner.

The two Dances held were much enjoyed by the members and friends present.

The Whist Drive held in Clarendon Street School on 30th March proved a most successful event both socially and financially, the number present being nearly 200.

The Council are pleased to report that the finances of the Association are in a satisfactory condition. In conclusion, the Council have again to thank all who have been kind enough to contribute to the programme during the past season.

SYLLABUS—SESSION 1906-7.

1906.
Oct. 9. Social Evening.
,, 23. Lantern Lecture by Prof. Carr ("Scenery and Geology of Scotland").
Nov. 13. Whist Drive.
,, 27. Lantern Lecture by Mr Arthur Black ("The Lake District").
Dec. 11. Musical Evening.
1907.
Jan. 8. Lantern Lecture by Mr G. E. Leighton.
,, 22. "A Nicht wi' Burns."
Feb. 12. Whist Drive.
,, 26. Lecture.
Mar. 11. Musical Evening.
,, 26. Social Evening.

JOHANNESBURG BURNS CLUB.

SYLLABUS—SESSION 1906-7.

1906.
May 21. "Sir Walter Scott"—Rev. R. B. Douglas, M.A.
June 18. "Christopher North"—Mr L. B. Dalgleish.
July 9. "H Seton Merriman: An appreciation" – Mr R. T. Paterson.
Aug. 8. Joint Debate—St. George's Literary Society. "Has Heredity or Environment the greater influence on Character?"
Sept. 10. Lecture—Professor Purves.
Oct. 8. "Lord Byron"—Mr J. Taylor.
Nov. 12. "The Kailyard School"—Mr R Rusk.
Dec. 10. Lecture—Mr R. Goldmann.
1907.
Jan. 25. Burns Dinner.
Feb. 11. Essay—Mr W. Dunbar.
Mar. 11. Annual General Meeting. President's Valedictory Address.
Apl. 8. "Minor Scottish Poets"—Mr M. Manson.

LITERARY COMPETITION,

Held on Saturday, 22nd September, 1906, in the Union Ground School, at 2.30 p.m. The Club offers for competition among all white children in the Transvaal, whose age does not exceed 16 years on the date of examination, the following prizes, viz. :—1, The Johannesburg Burns Club Prize, £5 ; 2, The Johannesburg Caledonian Society Prize, £5 ; 3, Prize presented by Alex. Dickson, Esq., Chief of Caledonian Society, £3 3s ; 4, Prize presented by John Munro, Esq., £2 2s ; 5, Prize presented by Wm. Leck, Esq., £1 1s ; 6, Prize presented by James Fraser, Esq., £1 1s ; 7, Prize presented by J. M. Gibson, Esq., £1 1s. The 5th, 6th, and 7th Prizes are books, and the first four Prizes wholly in money, or partly in money and partly in books. The subjects of Examination are the following, viz. :—1, Scott's Novel, "Fair Maid of Perth ;" 2, Burns's "To Mary in Heaven ;" 3, Byron's "Lochnagar ;" 4, Hogg's "Flora Macdonald's Lament ;" 5, Lady Nairne's "O, Rowan Tree." Subjects 2 to 5 should be committed to memory.

L. B. DALGLEISH, *Secy.*

ALBANY BURNS CLUB.

This Club meets on the first Wednesday of each month (from October to March inclusive) in White & Smith's Trades House Restaurant, 89 Glassford Street, at 7.30 o'clock. Members have the privilege of introducing friends. The Club are the winners for the second time of the Maclennan Bowling Cup given for competition annually by Burns Clubs in Glasgow.

SYLLABUS—SESSION 1906-7.

1906.

Oct. 3. Opening Address—President Kennedy.

Nov. 7. "Burns as a Poet: Nature and Human Nature"—Rev. James Forrest, M.A.

Dec. 5. "Lamb and his Friends on Robert Burns"—William Findlay, M.D., C.M.

1907.

Jan. 9. "Janet Hamilton"—Bailie Willox.

,, 25. Anniversary Dinner: "The Immortal Memory"—J. H. Millar, F.S.A. (author of the *History of Scottish Literature*).

Feb. 6. "Something about Something including Burns"—Wm. Cullen, M.D.

Mar. 6. "John Ruskin"—David F. Turnbull.

LORD ROSEBERY'S EDINBURGH APPEAL.

I HAVE come not to plead for a poet or a poem. I have come to plead for a piece of masonry as historic as anything in Scotland. A piece of masonry is threatened which ought to be one of the most cherished heirlooms of our nation, and which if we cannot muster up a few pounds will be swept away in the course of next spring. What a curious nation we are in Scotland! We are a proud nation, a warm-hearted nation, an enthusiastic nation; we are proud almost to idolatry of our great men. We are proud sometimes on this side of idolatry of some men who are not great. But there is one in Scotland whom we worship. There is no other word for it. Perhaps we ought not to worship him. He is not a perfect character; perhaps we ought not, but as a matter of fact we do. Our heart goes out to him as it goes out to no other man that was ever born in Scotland. We are never weary of celebrating him. Every year on his birthday there are festivals all over the habitable globe. There has been more rhetoric spent on his memory than perhaps on the memory of any other man that ever lived. He wrote a noble poem some 120 years ago, in which he contemplated two bridges in the town of Ayr. One was an old bridge of immemorial construction, a bridge the construction of which no one knows the exact date; the other was a new bridge, offensive to the eye of the poet, and he composed a poem which you all know, in which he predicted that the old immemorial bridge would survive the new-fangled bridge, that it would survive to the end of time. Well, his prophecy was accomplished. The old bridge has outlived the new bridge. We see it still as it was present to the eye of the poet when he wrote that poem. We see it still as it was trodden by his feet, and this nation of ours, that worships the poet and all that is connected with him, is going to allow this relic to be swept away altogether, to disappear from the face of the earth, not because of the operation of time or the elements, but because we enthusiasts cannot muster the money to keep it standing. We are reproached by our Southern neighbours with being something prudent, something circumspect with regard to finance. I am quite sure, at anyrate, that our Southern neighbours are uncommonly prudent and circumspect with regard to our finance, but, at anyrate, prudent as we are with a wise frugality, let us at anyrate show that we are not going to be dishonoured by the disappearance of this bridge, because

it will be nothing less than dishonour if it does disappear. It will be a stigma on the name of Scotland which not all the poetry or rhetoric of the Burns annual festivals will ever be able to obliterate. Gentlemen, we have not much time. We have to give an answer, a final answer. The last hour, the last moment, will be something about the date of Burns's birthday in January. After that the Town Council will take their own action, remove the bridge and construct a new one much broader, nobler perhaps, more solid, accommodating, for wheeled and motor traffic, possibly with a side way for bicyclists. All that every modern improvement can desiderate or require the Town Council will be able to put into operation after the 1st of February next if you refuse your help, and there will be a new bridge for Ayr, and there will be an old stain of dishonour for Scotland. I hope you are not going to be backward. Glasgow is bestirring itself. The Fiery Cross has gone round Glasgow, and there will soon be a meeting there. There is always said to be a jealousy between the great commercial capital of the West of Scotland and city of the Empire and the ancient capital of the East. I do not think it is as much as it is supposed. It is chiefly a question of weather. But if there is to be a jealousy, show it in your contributions to the Auld Brig. Don't let Glasgow have all the privilege and all the honour of finding the money for this bridge. Sir, there is a certain cant about all this Burns worship, when you think how long it has taken to muster this money. Any collector will give £60 to £100 for a letter written by this poet who died in poverty. I was offered a manuscript a year or so ago of Burns. I forget how many thousands were asked for it, but the price of that MS. would have easily found the sum wanting for the bridge. I do not know if many possessors of those costly relics of the poor poet have given much to this fund, and yet the brig is a more immortal memorial of Burns than any of his manuscripts. Don't we, some of us, feel in reading that most pathetic of lives, the life of Burns, with all its adversity and its clouds, the petty debts—why, I have seen myself the poor bills that remained unpaid or paid at the time of his death on the table, some docketed in his own hand paid, some docketed unpaid — don't we feel when we think of this man's distress and troubles — Oh, that we could have been alive then, and we could have relieved him! Is it not pitiful to think of our national poet, the pride of Scotland, being harassed for a few pounds at his death to pay his tailor and his shoemaker? We can do nothing of that sort now. He has gone beyond where these voices reach him, or where he can be harassed by shoemakers and tailors; but we will have an opportunity of showing what we would have done had he been alive by giving something at anyrate to the monument that he celebrated and venerated. (Applause.) All the time that these songs were being sung to-night my mind was very far away from this hall. I was thinking of that death-bed in Dumfries, 110 years ago, where Burns lay in actual

want of a trifling sum of money, broken down, when only thirty-seven years of age, discredited to some extent among his neighbours, lonely and desolate, waiting for the birth of that unborn child which he was not permitted to wait on to see. I was thinking of that lonely bed of the man we are celebrating, and then my eye rested on this great and splendid audience gathered here, 110 years after that event, listening in mute reverence to the recitations and the singing of those poems, which we listen to with the reverence of consecrated words. What a contrast it is! Is there such a contrast in the world as the contrast between Burns's death-bed and the way we treat his memory now, the way in which we listen to those almost inspired words which he wrote under such difficulties and under such depression? Carry your mind back to that scene, think how gladly everyone in this audience, poor or rich, would have brought a trifle to soothe the suffering of that death-bed; and if that be your feeling, as I cannot doubt that it is, that opportunity being gone, take the one that now presents itself. (Loud applause.)

["Whenever a year is 'five-and-twenty days begun,' a great mob assembles, all over Scotland, to drink whisky, and eat haggis, and make speeches in the Idol's praise." So says W. E. Henley. Is he right? Let the Clubs answer.—Ed.]

PRIZE SONG COMPETITION.

In accordance with the resolution adopted by the Federation at the annual meeting, held at Hamilton on September 2nd, 1905, the Executive advertised in the leading musical journals and Scottish newspapers in terms of the remit anent the procuring of "suitable tunes for one or more of the minor songs of Burns," offering a prize of £10 for the best melody sent in, the competitors being left free to select the words at their own discretion from a list submitted by the Secretary. No fewer than 242 compositions were sent in, most of the competitors submitting more than one piece for adjudication. After careful testing by experts, a short leet of 18 of the best compositions was submitted to an acknowledged musical authority in the West of Scotland, whose awards were as follow:—

First Prize (Ten Guineas)—Mr Arthur W. Marchant, Mus. Doc. (Oxon.), 10 Glebe Crescent, Stirling. (*Nom de plume*, "Fortes fortuna jurat.")

Second Prize—Mr Alfred J. Lancashire, 5 Ardgowan Terrace, Glasgow. ("Volkslied.")

Third Prize—Mr Arthur Bowes, Professor of Music, 13 Havelock Terrace, Birmingham. ("Harvest Moon.")

Though the competition, on the whole, was somewhat disappointing, a fair proportion of the pieces showed considerable merit. We print the winners as noted above.

Wilt Thou be My Dearie?

(In the style of the old Scotch Ballads.)

Words by ROBERT BURNS. Music by "*Fortes fortuna juvat.*"

Andante Moderato. (A. W. MARCHANT.)

PIANO.

mf

KEY F.

{|d :-.r |m s | l :-|s :- |- : | : | : |

mf Declamato.

Wilt thou be my dear - ie? . . .

mf *mp*

{ :s | d' :-.d' |t :s | t :-.l |l :-. | f :l |s :r }

mf Con espress.

When sor - row wrings thy gen - tle heart, Wilt thou let me

mf

{|m -.f |m :- . | m :- .m| m:l | s :f |m :- . }

cheer thee? By the treasure of my soul,

{| r :- .m|fe :s | t :l |s :s | f :d |f :-.f }

mp

That's the love I bear thee! I swear and vow that

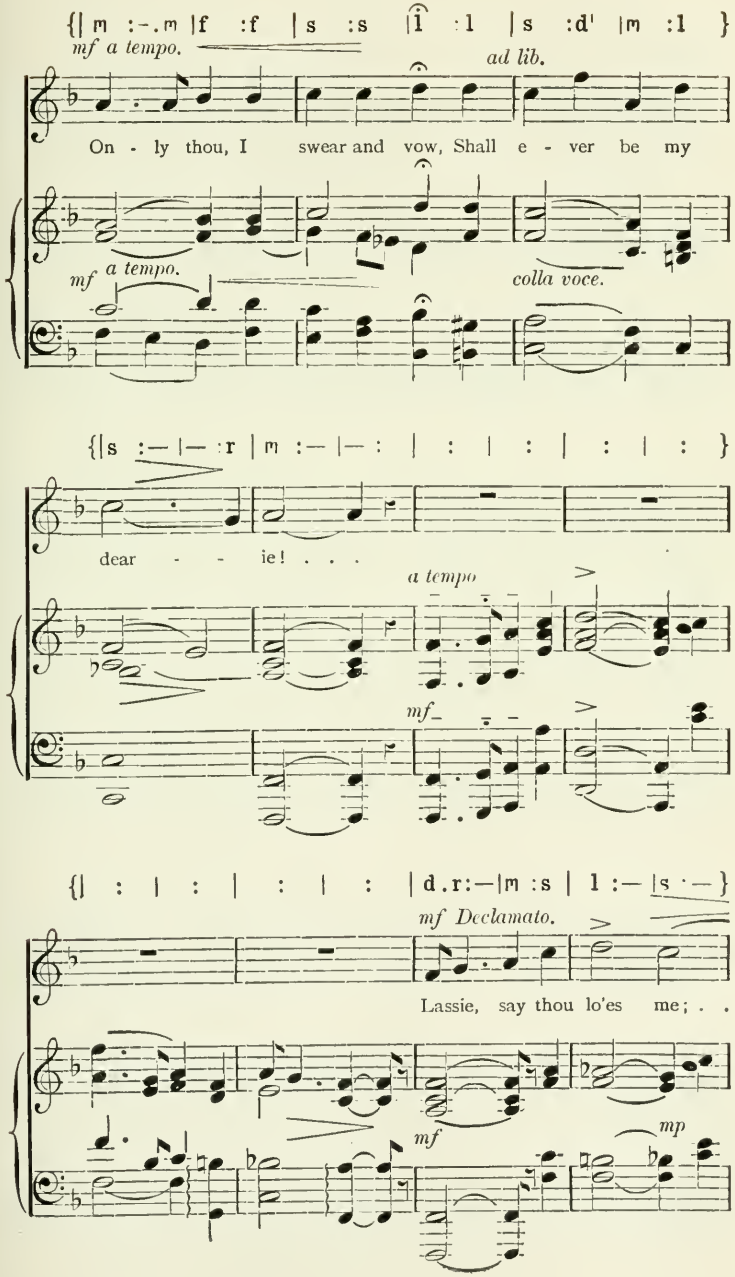
mp

{|m :re |m :m | m :-.m |l d | t :— |m : }

poco rall.

on - ly thou shall e - ver be my dear - ie!

poco rall.


{| m :-.m |f :f | s :s |l :l | s :d' |m :l }
mf a tempo.
ad lib.
On - ly thou, I swear and vow, Shall e - ver be my
mf a tempo.
colla voce.
{|s :— |— :r | m :— |— : | : | : | : | : }
dear - - ie! . . .
a tempo
mf
{| : | : | : | : | : | d.r:—|m :s | l :— |s :— }
mf Declamato.
Lassie, say thou lo'es me; . .
mf
mp

{|— : | : | : | :s | d':-.d'|t :s }

mf *Con espress.*

. . . . Or if thou wilt na

mf

{|t :-.l |l :-. |f :l |s :r |m :-.f |m :- . }

be my ain, . . Say na thou'lt re - fuse . . me: . .

{|m :-.m |m .l :— | s .f :— |m :- . |r :-.m |fe :s }

If it win-na, can-na be, . . Thou, for thine may

{|t :l |s :-. | f :d |f.f:—| m :re |m :-. | m :-.m|l :d' }

poco rall.

mp

choose me, . Let me, lassie, quickly die, Trust-ing that thou

mp *poco rall.*

{|t :— |m : |m.m:—|f :f |s :s |l :-. | s :d' |m :l }

mf a tempo. *ad lib.*

lo'es me, Lassie, let me quick-ly die, Trust-ing that thou

a tempo. *mf* *colla voce.*

{|s :—|— :r | m :— |— : | : | : ||

lo'es . . . me. . . .

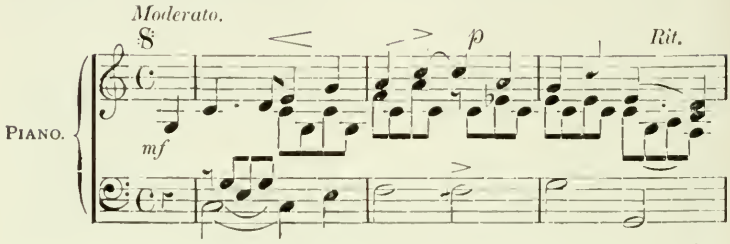
Ossia.

mp *p*

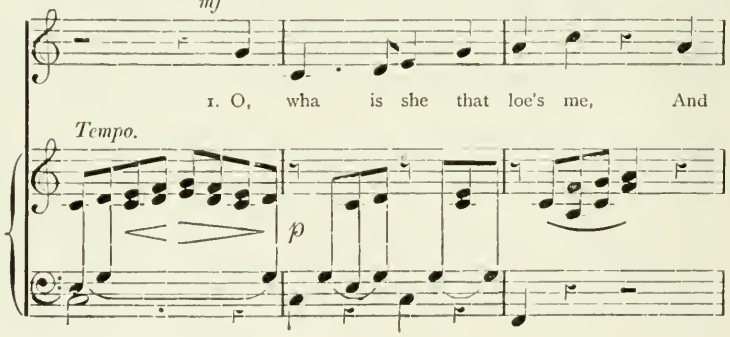
Ped. . . . . . .

O, Wha is She that Lo'es Me.*

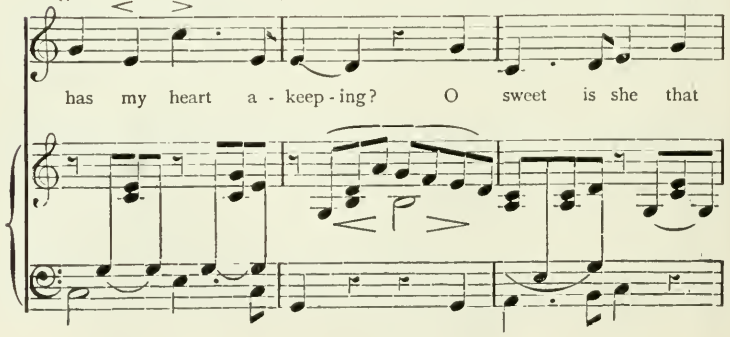
By A. J. Lancashire. Burns.



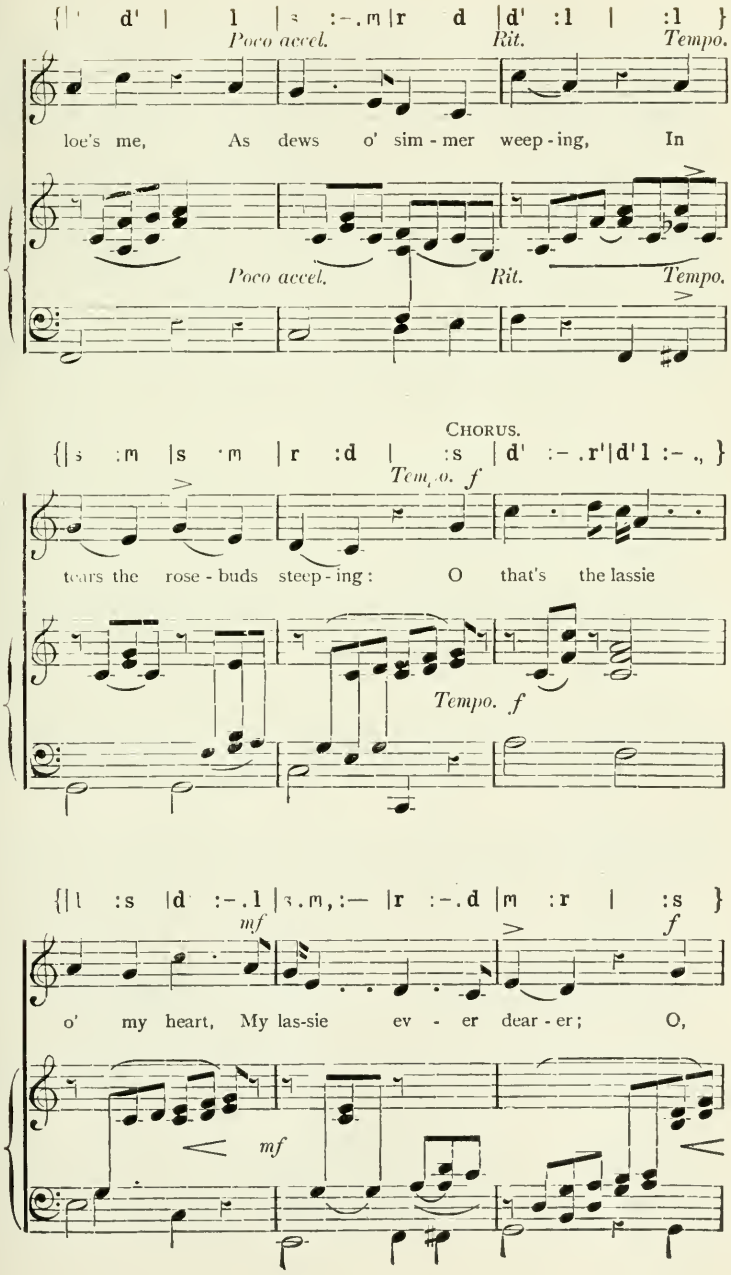
{| : | :s |d :- .r |m :s |l :d' | , :l }



{|s :m |d' :-.m |m :r | :s |d :- .r |m :s }



* *This song will be published by* Agate & Co., *London, and may be had from all Musicsellers*


{| d' | l | s :-.m |r d |d' :l | :l }
Poco accel.
Rit.
Tempo.
loe's me, As dews o' sim - mer weep - ing, In
Poco accel.
Rit.
Tempo.
CHORUS.
{| s :m |s :m | r :d | :s | d' :-.r'|d'l :-.,}
Tempo. f
tears the rose - buds steep - ing: O that's the lassie
Tempo. f
{| l :s |d :-.l |s.m,:— |r :-.d |m :r | :s }
mf
f
o' my heart, My las-sie ev - er dear - er; O,
mf

{|d' :-.r'|m' :r' |d'.l, — |l :s |l :s |d' :-.m }

Cres. *Rit.* *f Marcato.*

that's the queen o' wo-man - kind, And ne'er a ane to

Rit. *f Marcato.*

{|r :d | || r :d | · | : | : | : | : ||

Tempo. D.C. 𝄋 *Tempo.* *Last Verse.*

peer her. peer her.

2. If thou shalt meet a lassie,
In grace and beauty charming,
That e'en thy chosen lassie,
Erewhile thy breast sae warming,
Had ne'er sic powers alarming:
O that's, &c.

3. If thou hadst heard her talking,
And thy attentions plighted,
That ilka body talking,
But her by thee is slighted;
And thou art all delighted:
O that's, &c.

4. If thou hast met this fair one;
When frae her thou hast parted,
If every other fair one,
But her thou hast deserted,
And thou art broken-hearted:
O that's, &c.

She's Fair and Fause.

Composed by "Harvest Moon."
(Arthur Bowes.)

Moderato.

Piano.

mf

Key D.

{| : | : | || d .,r | m,s.-:f.l.-|s :d .,r }

mf

1. She's fair and fause that
2. Wha - e'er ye be that

mf

{|m,s.-:l .,d'|s :l .,t |d',r'.-:d'.l.-|s,m.-:d'.,m| m :— |r :d .,r}

p

caus - es my smart, I lo'ed her meik-le and lang; She's
wo - man love, To this be nev - er blind; Nae

p

{|m,s.-:f.,l|s :d.,r| m,s.-:l,d |s :l..t|d',r'.-d',l.-|s,m.-d',m.-}

Dim.

brok - en her vow, she's brok - en my heart, And I may e'en gae
fer - lie 'tis, tho' fickle she prove, A wo - man hast by

Dim.

{|r :— |d :m |l :t,se.-|l :m |l,d'.-:t,se.-|l :t }

mf

mp

hang. . . . . A coof cam' in wi' routh o' gear, And
kind. . . . . O wo - man, love - ly wo - man fair! An

Staccato.

{|d',r'.-:d',l.-|s.,m :s.,m|m :— |r :d.,r |m,s.-:f,l.-|s :d.,r}

Decresc.

Sarcasticissimo.

I hae tint my dearest dear; . . . But wo - men is but
angel form's faun to thy share; . . 'Twad been o'er meikle to

Decresc.

{|m,s.-:l d -|s :l ., t |d .r'.-:d .l.-|s,m.-:d'.m.-|r :— |d ||

warld's gear, Sae let the bonnie lass gang. . . .
gi'en thee mair, I mean an an - gel mind. . . .

After last verse only.

mf

NOTES AND QUERIES.

CLOSURE OF ALLOWAY OLD CHURCHYARD.

In the past year I made an investigation at the instance of members of the Parish Council of Ayr (landward) into the condition of the Old Churchyard of Alloway, which Burns has immortalised in "Tam o' Shanter." A petition was presented to the Sheriff for the closure of this burial ground, with some reservations in connection with certain individuals, and this was carried out. In my report on it I made the undernoted statements:—

"The area of the churchyard in question is about 1400 square yards, or a little more than a quarter of an acre. The oldest headstone noticed with a legible date is one of 1689. There is another one said to date from 1665, although the date on it cannot now be deciphered. It seems, therefore, that this graveyard has been in use for at least 240 years.

"The number of interments in the churchyard for the past twenty years has been as follows:—1885, 8; 1886, 15; 1887, 6; 1888, 16; 1889, 6; 1890, 11; 1891, 8; 1892, 7; 1893, 13; 1894, 13; 1895, 7; 1896, 4; 1897, 10; 1898, 3; 1899, 5; 1900, 8; 1901, 2; 1902, 9; 1903, 2; 1904, 9—a total of 162.

"It appears that there is a certain amount of overcrowding in this graveyard, as it is admitted that frequently bones have to be removed from the graves when digging new ones, and at two lairs which I saw probed the coffin in one case was only 28 inches from the surface, and in the other one only 20 inches. The latter lair abutted on the wall at the side of the public road. It has also been stated that two years ago, when the Burns Monument Trustees were levelling the surface of the ground in the old churchyard, human bones were found within six inches of the surface.

"The surroundings of this burial ground have also to be taken into account. It abuts on the public road, and several dwelling-houses are in the immediate neighbourhood, the nearest of which is only six yards from the wall of the graveyard. It may also be observed that this old churchyard, owing to its association with Burns, is visited by crowds of people; as many as 3000 or 4000 have been known to visit it in one day.

"The soil of the churchyard consists of rough gravel, while the subsoil is running sand. It does not appear to have any drainage further than the natural porous subsoil. Although a porous subsoil is the best for a burial ground, especially where there is an absence of artificial drainage, it must be observed that an open gravelly soil overlying the coffins is the worst soil when the latter are buried near the surface, as is the case in the Alloway Old Churchyard. It is, therefore, clear that the burying of bodies at a less depth than three feet from the surface in such a soil will permit of the effluvia from the decomposition of the bodies to pass into the open air. And when this graveyard not only adjoins the public road and is in close proximity to

dwelling-houses, and is frequented by thousands of people every year, there can be no question that its continuance as a burial ground is dangerous to health, while the disturbance of the skeletons of those interred there, with the view of making room for new burials, must be considered to constitute what is termed 'contrary to decency' in the words of the Burial Grounds Act.

"Considering the whole question, I am of opinion that this old graveyard should be closed, or at least restricted to the interments of such deceased persons as the husbands or wives of those already buried there ; and the fact that a new cemetery has been provided on the opposite side of the public road leaves no reason for continuing the use of this unsatisfactory burial ground."

[Dr MACDONALD, Medical Officer for County of Ayr.]

JOHN BURNS: A CORRECTION AND A REMINISCENCE.

Dear Sir,—In your last week's issue you inserted an eulogistic article from your contemporary, *The Grand Magazine*, on John Burns. I wish to correct the writer of that article on one important point. He stated: "The family hails from the Ayr district, and the member for Battersea *believes* that he is a great-grandson of the poet Burns." "Believes that he is a great-grandson" is exceedingly nebulous. Allow me to state there is no truth in this supposition of John Burns being related to our National Poet. The following may not be uninteresting to your readers, and will indicate that I have some reasons for my contention. About three years ago, when John Burns was last in Glasgow speaking for his then County Councillor colleague, Mackinnon Wood—now M.P.—I happened to be introduced to him in the office of the well-known trade union publishers, the Civic Press. He was asking for old Chartists' literature ; unfortunately they had none. I offered to take him to the *Labour Leader* office, where he possibly might get such literature. I mentioned that I had a book—but I will be hard up indeed when I part with it—the Chartists' Sermons of the Rev. Patrick Brewster, of Paisley, the most prominent and ablest of the West country Chartists. John Burns stated that his object in getting all the literature of the Chartists' period was to have it as complete as possible, and then present it to the Battersea Library, anticipating that the Battersea people would give it a special housing, and call it the Chartists' Corner, or the John Burns's Corner, or anything else they liked. I then asked him, as stated in some newspaper, if he were a relative of our poet Burns, and, if so, what his relationship was to a friend of mine—a great-grandson of Burns, and manager of one of our large Glasgow Corporation departments. He was very anxious to see that gentleman, and I arranged a meeting in half-an-hour. The conversation that took place between us indicated that he knew very little —in fact, nothing—about his supposed connection with "Rabbie." He informed us that his grandfather was a Writer to the Signet in Edinburgh, and his father was an engineer at Shotts. (Can you, Mr Editor, being a Shotts man, verify this ?) I did not trouble myself further in the matter till about a year ago, when Mr David Gardner, chairman of the Amalgamated Engineers, wrote to me, knowing that I was a bit of a Burnsite, calling my attention to the fact that the *Daily News* was praising John Burns as a direct descendant

of Robert Burns, and asking me if that were so. I consulted my co-members of the Co-operative Burns Club, also the Burns Federation Club and other sources, but with no satisfaction. I then wrote to Mr M'Naught, editor of the *Burns Chronicle*, and who is looked upon as the greatest authority on Burns chronologies, and from him I received an interesting letter, which I sent on to Mr Gardner, stating that John Burns was not a relative of our Burns, but that he might possibly be connected through Burns's cousins, the Burnesses of Montrose. Shortly afterwards I met a well-known Labour M.P., who inaugurated the first Burns teetotal club in Ayrshire. I asked if he knew of any connection of John Burns with the Ayrshire poet. His reply was: "I asked that question privately of John Burns in the House myself, and he could not answer me. To assist him I suggested that he might be connected with the Fenwick Burns. He hummed and hawed, and, like a drowning man grasping at a straw, said, 'Yes, yes, there might be some connection.' "The fact is," my informant significantly added, "John Burns knows little about his parentage." I think I have given clear proof that there is no link between the Right Honourable and our Robert Burns, and I trust that this myth is now buried. Apologising for trespassing to such length,—I am, yours faithfully, ALEXANDER GILCHRIST, J.P.

[In *Scottish Co-operator*, May, 1906.]

A BURNS LETTER.

A few weeks ago an autograph of Robert Burns was sold in London for £152. The MS. was the property of the late Rev. J. F. Fallon, formerly rector of Ballee, County Down, who bequeathed it to his servant, together with other manuscripts, one of which is a letter addressed by Burns to the Honourable Henry Erskine, Dean of the Faculty, Edinburgh. The text is as follows:—

"Two o'clock.

"Sir,—I showed the enclosed political ballad to my Lord Glencairn to have his opinion whether I should publish it, as I suspect my political tenets, such as they are, may be rather heretical in the opinion of some of my best friends. I have a few first principles in religion and politics, which I believe I would not easily part with, but for all the etiquette of by whom, in what manner, etc., I would not have a dissocial word about it with anyone of God's creatures, particularly an honoured patron or a respected friend. His Lordship seems to think my piece may appear in print, but desired me to send a copy for your suffrage. I am filled with the sincerest gratitude for the notice with which you have been pleased to honour the rustic bard.—Sir, your most devoted, humble servant, ROBERT BURNS."

[*Glasgow Herald*, Oct. 18th, 1906.]

ROBERT BURNS.

UNPUBLISHED LETTERS TO BE SOLD.

Towards the end of the month there come up for sale in London three letters, and some verses, in the autograph of Robert Burns, addressed to

Archibald Lowrie. He gave them to the Rev. Dr George Laurie, the minister of Loudoun, whose great-great-grandson now offers them for sale. All are thought to be unpublished. The first letter to Archibald Lowrie is dated Edinburgh, August 14, 1787—that is to say, about four months after the publication of the second edition of the Poems. It runs as follows :—

"Here am I—that is all I can tell of that unaccountable Being—myself. What I am doing no mortal can tell ; what I am thinking I myself cannot tell ; what I am usually saying is not worth telling. The clock is just striking one, two, three, four, . . . twelve forenoon ; and here I sit at the attic storey, alias the garret, with a friend on the right hand of my standish—a friend whose kindness I shall largely experience at the close of this line—there—thank you. A friend, my dear Mr Lowrie, whose kindness often makes one blush. A friend who has more of the milk of human kindness than all the human race put together, and, what is highly to his honour, peculiarly a friend to our friendless as often as they come in his way ; in short, sir, he is without the least alloy a universal Philanthropist, and his much-beloved name is A BOTTLE OF GOOD OLD PORT. . . . I care no more."

Then one Monday afternoon in the Lawn Market he wrote :—

"Mon cher Monsr., as to-night the Grand Master and Lodge of Masons appear at the Theatre in form, I am determined to go to the Play. I am afraid it will be impossible to form a Partie with our female friends for this night, but I shall call on you a few minutes before the Theatre opens, when, if Miss Lowrie can, I shall be very happy ; if not, I suppose you will have no objection to take a seat in the Pit with toujours le votre.—R. BURNS."

There follows a note, in which he says :—

"I cannot be with you at tea to-night, as I have just now got a summons to wait on Lord Glencairn in the afternoon."

Belonging to a couple of years later is a letter, from another source, to R. Ainslie, dated Ellisland, November 1, 1789 :—

"I had written you long ere now could I have guessed where to find you, for I am sure you have more good sense than to waste the precious days of vacation time in the dirt of business and Edinburgh. Wherever you are God bless you, bless, and lead you not into temptation, but deliver you from evil. I don't know if I have informed you that I am now appointed to an Excise Division, in the middle of which my house and farm lie. In this I was extremely lucky. Without ever having been an Expectant, as they call their Journeyman Exciseman, I was directly planted down to all intents and purposes an officer of Excise, there to flourish and bring forth fruits worthy of repentance. I know how the word Exciseman, or, still more opprobrious, Gauger, will sound in your Ears. I, too, have seen the day when my auditory nerves would have felt very delicately on this subject, but a wife and children are things which have a wonderful power in blunting these kind of sensations. Fifty pounds a year for life and a provision for widows and orphans you will allow is no bad settlement for a Poet."

Unfortunately the signature is torn off.

[*Glasgow Evening Times*, July 12th, 1905.]

FALKIRK—A BURNS LETTER.

In the course of his remarks, Sheriff Wilson quoted the following letter addressed by the Poet to his (Sheriff Wilson's) wife's great-great-grandfather :—

"Sir,—I shall not fail to wait upon Captain Riddel to-night. I wish and pray that the Goddess of Justice herself would appear to-morrow among our honourable gentlemen merely to give them a word in their ear that 'mercy to the thief is injustice to the honest man.' For my part, I have galloped over my ten parishes these four days until this moment that I am just alighted. Or rather that my poor jackass skeleton of a horse has put me down, for the miserable devil has been on his knees half a score of times within the last twenty miles, telling me in his own way, 'Behold, am not I thy horse on which thou hast ridden these many years !!!' In short, sir, I have broken my horse's wind and almost broke my own neck—besides some injuries in a part that shall be nameless, owing to a hard-hearted stone of a saddle ; and I find that every offender has so many great men to espouse his cause that I shall not be surprised if I am committed to the stronghold of the Law to-morrow for insolence to the dear friends of the gentlemen of the county.—I have the honour to be, sir, your obliged and obedient humble servant, ROBT. BURNS."

Sheriff Wilson added that at a Burns's festival it was difficult to find anything new to say, and perhaps the characteristic letter, which had been read in public, so far as he knew, for the first time, might be regarded as a redeeming feature of the speaker's address on that occasion.

[*Glasgow Herald*, Jan. 26th, 1904.]

BURNS'S ALLEGED INTEMPERATE HABITS.

Apropos the discussion as to Kipling's *Muzzy Scotchman*, it may be interesting to recall from the chronicles of the oldest Burns Club authoritative denials to the alleged intemperate habits of Burns. At a meeting of Greenock Club in August, 1804, a paper was read on Robert Fergusson, the poet. In the discussion which followed, one member raised a storm by declaring that "Robert Burns had copied Fergusson's intemperate habits, as well as his poems." Mr John Wright, the then president of the Club, stated that he had known Robert Burns intimately for three years previous to his joining the Excise, and having been associated with him in his profession he could, from his personal knowledge, deny most emphatically that Robert Burns was a man of intemperate or dissolute habits. Five years later, in 1809, further denials were given in the Club to the blackening stories. On this occasion a Mr Wilson stated "that he knew Burns from the first day he landed in Dumfries till he was carried to his last resting-place, and on no occasion had he ever known of him being the worse for the imbibing of intoxicating liquors, and he considered him much above the average for sobriety in the service to which he latterly belonged."

[*Glasgow Evening News.*]

RAEBURN AUTOGRAPH LETTERS.

Raeburn (Sir Henry) Three signed Autograph Letters, dated 14th Nov., 1803; 11th Dec., 1803; and 22nd Feb., 1804; also, a Bill drawn by Sir H. Raeburn upon Messrs Cadell & Davis for £21 in payment of a portrait of Burns which he painted from the original portrait by Nasmyth, and the shipping company's receipt for the case containing the picture, which was sent from Leith—five items in all, £15 15s. A most important series of documents, setting at rest all doubts as to whether or not Raeburn painted a portrait of Burns. He says in Letter No. 1: ". . . I have finished a Copy of Burns the Poet from the original portrait painted by Mr Nasmyth. I have shown it to Mr Cunningham, who thinks it very like him." 2. "I enclose you a receipt for the Case containing Burns' Portrait. I have twenty guineas for a portrait the size of Burns'. I do not wish you to remit the money to me." 3. "Nothing could be more gratifying to me than the approbation you expressed of the copy I made for you of Robert Burns."

These documents were sold to Mr William Brown, antiquarian and art bookseller and publisher, 26 Princes Street, Edinburgh. This Raeburn copy of the Nasmyth has disappeared. [EDITOR.]

GIFT TO BURNS'S DAUGHTER.

It appears that £263 13s 9d is the amount raised for Mrs Thomson, Pollokshaws, daughter of Burns. Part of this money has been invested in a small property, which will yield a yearly income of £20 to Mrs Thomson as long as she lives, with the reversion to her family. In addition to this settlement, the old lady has received £50 in cash.—ROBERT MURDOCH-LAWRANCE.

[*The Aberdeen Journal*, 15th Feb., 1860.]

THE ROMANCE OF A FIRST EDITION.

Burns published the first edition of his poems at Kilmarnock in 1786. The volume appeared on the last day of July, with the simple title, "Poems, chiefly in the Scottish dialect." The edition consisted of 612 copies, for 350 of which subscribers had been obtained before publication. The price of the book was three shillings. Six hundred copies (allow the odd twelve for presentations) would produce £90. If there were no more to be deducted from that sum than the costs of paper, printing, and stitching, there would remain, according to the printer's account, upwards of £54 as profit. The Poet, however, speaks of realising only £20 by the speculation. Take the latter figure as correct, and keep it in mind while we are having a little chat about the further fortunes of this solitary grand achievement of the Kilmarnock press.

A copy of this first edition of the National Bard was sold quite recently for £1000. That was a "record" price, and a long way in advance of the previous "record," which stood at £572. Let us see how the figures gradually rose. Nobody seems to know exactly when the bibliomaniacs began to track the Kilmarnock Burns, but it is at least certain that no fictitious value had

been attached to it before the middle of last century. The late Mr Craibe Angus, an authority on the subject, was unable to trace the first copy that came to the hammer, but he was able to state that a copy was purchased early in the fifties by James Stillie, the famous Edinburgh dealer, for a shilling at a sale in Leith. This is probably the lowest price at which the volume has ever been sold. That the bibliomaniac realised something of its value long before this is well illustrated by an anecdote told by Mr John Payne Collier, the Shakespearian scholar.

Mr Collier was the author of *An Old Man's Diary*, and in that book, under date August 1, 1832, you may read—"I met with a vexatious disappointment to-day. I was passing through Turnstile to Lincoln's Inn Fields, and so to Somerset House, when I cast my eyes upon some shelves with books outside a shop kept by a man of the historical name of Cornish. I saw one book that I much desired to possess—viz., the Kilmarnock edition of the poems of Burns. As I was going further, and intended to return directly, I put it back on the shelf, making up my mind to purchase it on my way home. The price was only 1s 6d, but I knew it would not be dear at a guinea; and when I returned by the same way I did not for a moment forget my book, for I already considered it mine. My mortification, therefore, was not a little when, as I passed the place again, I found it gone—sold for 1s 6d to somebody else! I resolved from that time never to run such a risk again. It was uncut, and in the original boards. I have never seen any such copy. Let casuists decide whether to have given the poor bookseller only 1s 6d for a book worth a guinea would not have been imposing upon him. No; he obtained his profit out of the 1s 6d, and I should only have availed myself of a little superior knowledge, which perhaps I had bought very dearly."

There is a nice question in ethics here, but I am not going to discuss it. Personally, I am quite ready to carry away a first edition of Burns from the fourpenny box, and say my prayers in the evening as if nothing had happened. You may be sure that the man who puts a 1786 Burns in the fourpenny box has bought the book for something less than fourpence. Hence you are not cheating him in paying him what he asks: and if you make a profit of £500—well, that is simply your good luck! Of course such things never happen. But it is pleasant to think that they might happen. A friend, walking over the Pentlands with me the other week, told me that one of his castles in the air was a baronial tower. Nobody is less likely to build a baronial tower than Mr ——, but it gives him great delight to imagine that he is building it. And so I am always living in hopes of discovering a Kilmarnock Burns in the fourpenny box. One could do so many things with a thousand pounds.

But I have wandered from my subject. What I want more particularly to bring out is the gradual appreciation in price of this now priceless edition of Burns. We have seen that eighteenpence was asked for a copy in 1832, and that Stillie bought a copy for a shilling in the early fifties. In 1858 a copy was sold in Edinburgh for £3 10s; next year one was knocked down in Glasgow for £8. In 1869 two copies were sold in Edinburgh, one for £10, the other for £14. In 1870 Basil Montague catalogued a copy, "in the original blue cover," at 18 guineas. The year 1874 saw a copy sold in Edinburgh for £19. In London, in 1876, £36 10s was paid. In 1879, at Sotheby's sale-room, David Laing's copy, which contained two MSS., brought £94.

Following these gradually mounting prices, I quote :—London, 1881, £49 ; London, 1882, £67 and £73 ; Edinburgh, 1884, £40 and £23 (incomplete) ; London, 1887, £66 ; London, 1888, £86, £111, and £35 10s (incomplete) ; London, 1890, £72, £100, £107, and £120. In 1893 the Auchinleck copy, bought originally perhaps by the son of Johnson's Boswell, went for £102. In 1896 a "tall" copy, in fine preservation, was sold in Glasgow to an English collector for £120 ; and in the same year a copy, bound in olive green Levant morocco, richly gilt, tooled, in brown morocco case, was acquired by an Edinburgh professor for £115. In 1897 Sotheby again disposed of a copy, this time at £86.

In 1898 came the remarkable sale, at Dowell's, in Edinburgh, of the Lamb copy, at the then unheard-of price of 545 guineas. The history of this particular copy is romantic enough, though not more so, doubtless, than the history of other copies, if we only knew that history. Some thirty-five years ago a widow in Forfar, anxious to realise her late husband's effects, got a schoolmaster to advertise the book in a local paper. The highest offer was £8 10s, and that secured the volume for a Broughty Ferry gentleman, who, about 1880, sold it to the late Mr A. C. Lamb, the well-known Dundee collector, for £60. In 1881 Mr Lamb, through an agent, was refused £120 by a big London dealer for the book. Imagine that dealer's chagrin when he found that what he had declined to buy at £120 had been sold for £572 ! It was a beautiful copy, this of Lamb's. Previous editions sold were cut on the margin close to the type. The Dundee copy had the full original margin, and the original stiff blue paper covers were almost as fresh as if they had been put on a week before. Only four or five uncut examples of the book have been traced, and the blue paper covers are so excessively rare that some collectors have maintained that the majority of copies must have been issued in boards. The printer's account, however, shows that all the 612 copies were stitched in blue paper, the charge for the lot being £4 9s 3d.

Between the sale of the Lamb copy in 1898 and the recent purchase of a copy for £1000, there are no sensational figures to record. There was a copy at the Craibe Angus sale in December 1902, but it had several flaws and imperfections, and brought only £52. At this sale a 1793 edition went for £250 ; but in that case the autograph inscription of the Poet found on the title page counted for a great part of the sum, though it is worth recalling that Lamb's copy of the same edition, also inscribed, brought only 64 guineas.

In April of the present year (1903) another copy of the great 1786 edition came up for sale in Edinburgh. It belonged to Dr John Taylor Brown, and was sold for £350, though both the blue paper cover and the blue paper back were missing. The book was rather curiously made up from two copies. The uncut part, lacking the title and the three preliminary leaves, had been acquired originally by Dr Brown for eighteenpence. He gave Mr William Brown, of Edinburgh, £16 for a cut copy of the book, and used it to complete his own otherwise fine copy The binder's charge for inlaying the leaves and supplying a morocco case was £5 10s. If we add to the £350 at which the book was sold the £4 15s realised for the cut copy robbed of its opening portion, we find that a surplus of £333 3s 6d remained. It was a lucky transaction—for Dr Brown's estate at anyrate. The more recent £1000 copy, purchased by the Burns Monument and Cottage Trustees, has an equally romantic history.

The book belonged to Mr G. S. Veitch, of Paisley, who bought it many years ago from an Edinburgh bookseller for £10. The bookseller had got it from a family mansion in Mid-Lothian, along with a number of other books, for "an old song." From £10 to £1000—just think of it! And poor Burns, lying on his death-bed, had to plead with friends to help him to pay a wretched tailor's bill.—J. CUTHBERT HADDEN.

[*Edinburgh Dispatch*, 7th October, 1903.]

RE-ISSUE OF WALKER & COUSIN'S ENGRAVING.

NEW YORK, *May 17th, 1906.*

MR D. M'NAUGHT,

Dear Sir,—As to the engraving, referred to in my letter to Dr Morrison and your letter to him, I am afraid that, in my ignorance, I made some statements calculated to give you an unjust opinion of the late Colonel Joseph Laing. On re-examination of all the accessible evidence, I am obliged to say that Laing never claimed originality for the engraving which he published about 1876. Moreover, I wish, in justice to Mr Laing, to give you his record as a Scottish-American citizen, of which I think his native compatriots may all be proud.

Coming to this country in 1850, at the age of 22, Mr Laing started a modest business in New York City as a publisher and seller of engravings. This business he sacrificed at the outbreak of our War of the Rebellion in 1861, when, as captain of a company in the 79th ("Highlanders") regiment of New York State, he entered the Union Army for three years, during which period he lay for some months in hospital, in consequence of a severe wound, afterwards returning to his regiment, which, in one of the great battles, he commanded as senior captain, when the superior officers had been killed or disabled. At the close of the war, the 79th returned to the N.Y. State National Guard, and Laing became, and remained for a good many years, its colonel. Meanwhile, he resumed his former business as publisher and seller of engravings, in which I suppose he prospered, since he was widely known for his generosity, especially towards Scots overtaken by misfortune, and was an honoured member of a large number of societies (Scottish-American, Masonic, Army, etc.), which turned out in great numbers to form a funeral procession in his honour a couple of years ago. In short, the man's record for honesty, bravery, public spirit, and fraternal sympathy was notably creditable; and I hope you will put his name among those for which Scotland may well be proud and America grateful.—Yours truly, R. W. RAYMOND.

DEATHS.

On 8th March, 1820, at Bennals, Hugh Ronald, Esq. of Bennals.—[*Scots Magazine*, April, 1820, p. 390.]

On 21st December, 1825, at Maybole, Mr Andrew Brown. He was the maternal uncle of the Poet Burns.—[*Scots Magazine*, Jan., 1826, p. 128.]

On 5th March, 1826, at Muirkirk, in the 84th year of her age, Mrs Janet Anderson, relict of Mr John Lapraik, late of Dalfram, well known to most of our readers as the intimate friend of Burns.—[*Scots Magazine*, April, 1826, p. 511.]

On January 26th, 1906, James Burns, third son of William Burns (by his wife Jane Callanan), who was the eldest son of Gilbert Burns, brother of the Poet (by his wife Jean Breckenridge), aged 74, at Portarlington. Buried Mount Jerome Cemetery.

On October 5th, 1906, at her residence, The Woodlands, Wokingham, Berks, Jemima Georgina, aged 87, daughter of Alexander Ferrier, of Dublin, and widow of Gilbert Burns (nephew of the Poet) of Knockmaroon Lodge, near Dublin. Buried October 9th, in St. Paul's Churchyard, Wokingham.

INTERESTING BURNS RELIC.

The Armour Family Bible Comes to Dumfries.

Mr Lawson Brown, Carronbank, Greenbrae, Dumfries, has just obtained delivery of an interesting Burns relic in the shape of the family Bible of James Armour, the father of "Bonnie Jean." The volume was for many years in the possession of the late Robert Brown, Drumshinnoch, near Thornhill, who was the great-grandson of James Armour through his second daughter, Helen, the sister of "Bonnie Jean," and whose son Mr Lawson Brown is. The eldest son of the late Robert Brown, to whom the heirloom would in the natural course have fallen, has been long resident in America, and he having waived his claim to it, the Bible will, fortunately, remain in this country, and in Dumfries, where everything associated with the family of Burns has peculiar interest and value.

The volume is quarto edition, bound in full calf, and printed in Edinburgh by Adrian Watkins in 1756. Between the Book of Malachi and the Apocrypha is inserted the family tree of the Armours and the Browns, and the first four lines run: "James Armour, Masson in Mauchlin, Aught this Book. and was Maired to Mary Smith, December 7th, 1761. We had A Son Born the 14th Nover., 1762, Called John. We had A Daughter Born Feby. 16th, 1765, called Jean." James Armour died in September, 1798. His wife, Mary Smith, survived him by seven years, and at her death the Bible came into the possession of their second daughter, Helen, who, four years before the death of her illustrious brother-in-law, Robert Burns, had married John Brown, weaver in Newmilns. James, the eldest son of this marriage, was born in 1796. He was married in November, 1819, to Mary Lawson, second daughter of Robert Lawson, of Darvel. Of this marriage there was an issue of nine—six sons and three daughters. Robert, the third off-spring and second son, was born on 21st November, 1824, and died in his eightieth year in 1904 at Drumshinnoch, after almost a lifetime's service on the Drumlanrig estate of the Duke of Buccleuch. The Bible, which has now passed into the hands of his son, Mr Lawson Brown, bears all the appearance of its venerable age and also of frequent use in its day. The first six chapters of Genesis, the latter part of the Psalms, and the whole of the Paraphrases are awanting, but other-

wise the volume is in good preservation. To strengthen the calf-binding, which had become detached in certain parts, Robert Brown's mother had many years ago stitched a rough striped canvas cover, and this still remains, lending a quaint touch to the old volume.

Mrs Stitt, Railway Buildings, Hurlford, sister of Mr Lawson Brown, has also just obtained possession of a Paisley shawl worn by "Jean Armour." This is another interesting relic that has for years been treasured in the Brown's home at Drumshinnoch. There remains yet another valuable heirloom in the possession of Mrs Robert Brown. This is a chest of drawers which formed part of the furnishings of Burns's Mauchline home. The Poet's wife, Jean, exchanged the chest with her sister, Helen, when Burns left Ayrshire to take up farming at Ellisland, and it has continued in Helen's family ever since.

VALUABLE BURNS RELIC FOR DUMFRIES.

Some months ago considerable interest was aroused at Sotheby's sale rooms in London, where there was put up for auction a quaint whisky bottle which had belonged to the poet Burns. The vessel is a curious old-fashioned black bottle resembling the shape of a mason's mallet, but tapering rather more towards the bottom. It has a capacity of scarcely two gills imperial, and has a metal cover with loop on top. It was presented by the poet's widow (Jean Armour) to Miss Barry (a sister of Mr Barry, at one time a carver and gilder in Dumfries), who was a servant for some years with the Burns family. Shortly before her death Miss Barry gifted the relic to Mrs Austin, Dockhead, who afterwards made a present of it to Robert Burns, youngest son of Mrs Burns, Dock Park Terrace. Mr Robert Burns, who is now a hairdresser at Nith Place, afterwards sold the relic to Mr Turner, Glasgow, who recently consigned it to the sale at Sotheby's. There was keen competition, Mr Jas. P. A. L. Thomson travelling from Dumfries to London to endeavour to secure it for his father, Mr John Thomson, the well-known Burns collector of the Hole i' th' Wa' Inn, High Street. But the reserve put on the relic was too high, and when the bidding stopped at £30 10s the seller drew it out. This week, however, Mr Thomson succeeded in buying it privately from Mr Turner at a handsome figure. This is a well-authenticated trophy which has figured at no less than four Burns exhibitions. In 1880 it was shown at the exhibition in Dumfries in connection with the raising of funds for the Burns Statue, being then lent by Mrs Burns, Dock Park Terrace. It was then shown in the exhibition at the Observatory, and appears in the catalogue of that time printed at the *Dumfries Herald* Office. It was next exhibited by Mr Burns, Nith Place, at the Glasgow Burns Exhibition in 1896, and was in 1901 lent by Mr Turner, the last owner, to the Glasgow International Exhibition. It was used at the Burns' anniversary of the Bridgeton Club in 1900, and while formerly in possession at Dumfries was used at several private Burns entertainments held at neighbouring county houses. The acquisition of this bottle is another proof of Mr Thomson's determination to secure for his extensive collection authentic relics of the poet Burns.

MR GLADSTONE ON BURNS.

The Press Association states :—Mr Gladstone, in acknowleging receipt of a copy of the *In Memoriam* edition of Burns's poetical works (London, Clement Wilson), writes to the editor, Mr James A. Manson, in these terms : —" Dear Sir,—I thank you for the beautiful and convenient edition of Burns which you have been good enough to send me. His high and secure place in the history of British letters has always made me regret that it hasn't been in my power to make any adequately thorough study of works which bear impressed upon them, beyond the possibility of mistake, the stamp of true genius. My regret is softened by the knowledge that this default is much more than made up by the devotion of more instructed and more capable students and admirers.—I remain, dear Sir, yours very faithfully, W. E. GLADSTONE."

Mr Gladstone, in acknowledging receipt of a copy of *Burns, Excise Officer and Poet*, by Sinton, writes to the author, Mr Sinton, Carlisle :—" Dear Sir,—I thank you for again calling my attention to Burns. That extraordinary man deserves every amount of attention from those who can give it, but I am very sorry to say it never has been and is not now in my power to make an adequate study of his singularly mixed character.—Yours very faithfully, W. E. GLADSTONE. July 20, 1896."

LORD ROSEBERY'S GLASGOW APPEAL.

THE EARL OF ROSEBERY, who was received with enthusiasm, said he could offer no compliment or criticism with regard to what had fallen from the chairman except in two respects. One was on the point of the sum of £8000 as being satisfactory in view of the restoration of the Auld Brig. He himself should not be satisfied with less than £10,000, because £10,000 was the sum required. The other cavil was in regard to the promise of the chairman of eloquence on his (the Earl's) part. He had come to Glasgow on many previous occasions and in many different characters, but he never came before that he remembered in the character of what our poet would have called "A Jolly Beggar" He was a jolly beggar that day. At least as jolly as he could be under the circumstances, because that delight was somewhat clouded by the recollection that he had once to do this before, and the particular avocation of a beggar was not one that was very congenial to himself—for want of practice. He had begged in Edinburgh. He had appealed to the "Auld Chucky Reekie," as Burns says, and he hoped "Auld Chucky Reekie" was going to lay some eggs. If she did not, then the Cock of the West would outstrip her efforts. A certain sum of money had to be got in a very limited time to save what was not merely a subject of one of Burns's famous poems, but what was also a subject of great and antiquarian interest. He was not beginning only. That, if they wished to know, was not the nearest point to his heart in this matter. Of course, it was very desirable to save the Old Brig. He regarded that as absolutely necessary, because unless it was saved they might have it purchased by some great multi-millionaire, who would have the stones numbered, and the Old Brig put up in his back garden in Chicago. If they did not save the Old Brig, if he could embark on such a daring hypothesis as that, he should wish that that should be the fate of the Old Brig—to act in the new world as an eternal reproach to old Scotland. That was really the feeling he had at heart in this matter. It was to avert from Scotland and from the Scottish escutcheon a reproach and a stain, which, he thought, would be absolutely indelible. We had not many monuments in Scotland. Our principal stone monument was in the coronation chair in England—the stone of destiny. But, after all, the stone of destiny is only a stone associated, no doubt, with many tragic and interesting traditions; but he was not sure that even the stone of destiny was

so interesting as this Old Brig of Ayr. If we let that Old Brig be destroyed, if they allowed it to be replaced by a structure, however valuable, however interesting that new structure might be, he did not think we should be able to hold up our heads again. Did they ever realise what Burns did for Scotland, how completely he transformed our national life and our national character? It was perfectly true that the great novel magician, Sir Walter Scott, did in a sense more for Scotland than ever Burns did, because he enveloped the whole country in a haze of romance which cannot die away. But Scott had never dwelt in the hearts of the people as Burns had done. His birthday was at this moment celebrated but in a few centres, whereas the national anniversary of Burns was a subject of fashion wherever the sun shines throughout the whole civilised world. There was no birthday of any dead man, perhaps there was no birthday of any living man—our King included—who was so universally commemorated as the birthday of Burns. Why was that? Because he was a man; he was besides a genius, flesh of our flesh, blood of our blood, and bone of our bone. He spoke in accents of Scotchmen, and he spoke rarely not in classical phraseology of England, but in the language or a dialect of Scotland, and therefore to us he was a Scottish representative man. But he (Lord Rosebery) was not going that day to speak of Burns, because he had sworn never to speak of Burns again. But he would ask them to remember in a negative sense one great service that Burns rendered to Scotland. The other day he spoke at Edinburgh of a certain cant associated with Burns idolatry, a certain cant by saying there was nothing they would not do for Burns, and when opportunity offered of doing little or nothing. There was nothing that would have been so revolting to the ideas of Burns. Nothing like cant had ever been associated with his name. He was not sure that the greatest of the moral services associated with the memory of Burns was not his very warfare with this demon of cant. Burns by his scathing sarcasm dissociated religion from that husk in which it was withering, and brought it back as a living thing to the heart of the Scottish nation. His Lordship, having read several stanzas from "The Cottar's Saturday Night," proceeded to say that the man who wrote these need have no fear of denouncing cant. Cant was the profession of the unreal. Reduced to its naked and skeleton form, that was cant. What we in Scotland had got at this moment to fear was that we in our turn were exposed to the charge of the cant of patriotism, when we honour and revere this memory and cannot raise £10,000 to one of its most cherished associations. In this connection he had framed a couplet—

> "A Burns swept Scotland with an annual pang,
> But could not save the sacred stones he sang."

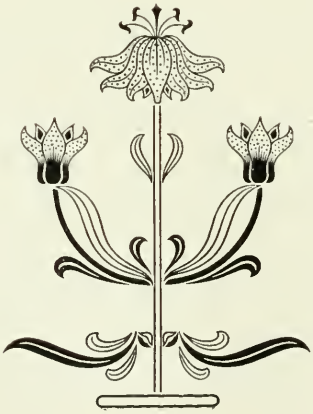
Do not, he asked, let this reproach be used against them He asked them to remember also that in this matter they had a great responsibility to posterity.

Let them by an effort of imagination suppose that Burns himself had opened the door through which they had just come, and was to clump in in his peasant shoes, his worsted stockings, his broad, pleasant face, ay, and in the midst of his face those black globes of fire which bound the world to poetry, those eyes which Sir Walter Scott never saw matched. Suppose that person were to walk in and speak to them as he had spoken to them. Suppose he came in and asked them to save the Auld Brig for his sake. Why, they would break down the reporters' gallery, throng upon the platform, and produce every shilling, watches, chains, rings, every ornament they had, and lay them at the feet of Robert Burns. Great millionaires of the world would give their hundreds and their thousands for a shake of his hand or a sound of his voice, and yet they could not give £10,000 now that he was dead to save an object on which his heart was set. It was not he (the Earl) they were listening to that day. It was Burns himself. He had left them as a legacy this book (holding up a volume of Burns), and he did not believe that he held it in vain in his hands that day.

Sir John Ure Primrose moved, and Dr Wallace seconded, a resolution appointing a committee for the furtherance of the scheme and the appointment of a committee to raise subscriptions.

On the motion of Sir Samuel Chisholm, the Earl of Rosebery was thanked for his address; and the meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the Chairman, accorded on the motion of the Earl of Rosebery.

The Lord Provost intimated that the sum subscribed up to the present time was £700.



MOTTO—"A MAN'S A MAN FOR A' THAT."

The Burns Federation,

INSTITUTED 1885.

Hon. President—The Right Hon. The EARL OF ROSEBERY, K.G., K.T.

OFFICE-BEARERS.

President—Hon. Sheriff MACKAY, J.P., Kilmarnock.
Vice-Presidents—Sir JAMES SIVEWRIGHT, K.C.M.G.
WM. WALLACE, LL.D., 36 Lilybank Gardens, Glasgow.
Dr WM. FINDLAY, 19 Westercraigs, Dennistoun.
DAVID MURRAY, M.A., B.Sc., Grammar School, Kilmarnock.
JAMES M'CULLOCH, 27 Rose Street, Garnethill, Glasgow.
J. B. MORISON, Burns Club, 36 Nicholson Street, Greenock.
J. THOMSON FINDLAY, Findlayson House, Kilbowie Road, Clydebank.
THOMAS BROWN, Maryfield, Lowwaters, Hamilton.
J. S. JAMIESON, 27 Broomhill Drive, Partick.
HUGH ALEXANDER, J.P., Eastfield House, Rutherglen.
J. JEFFREY HUNTER, 109 Bath Street, Glasgow.
A. M'CALLUM, Thornliebank.
ALEXANDER POLLOCK.
JOSEPH MARTIN, 163 West George Street, Glasgow.
Alderman WILLIAM BURNS, Sunderland.
Hon. Secretary—Captain D. SNEDDON, J.P., Kilmarnock.
Assistant Secretary—THOS. AMOS, M.A., Kilmarnock.
Hon. Treasurer—JOSEPH BROCKIE, J.P., Royal Bank, Kilmarnock.
Editor "Burns Chronicle"—D. M'NAUGHT, J.P., Benrig, Kilmaurs.
Auditors—GEORGE DUNLOP, J.P., Kilmarnock.
DAVID MURRAY, M.A., B.Sc., Kilmarnock

CONSTITUTION.

I. The *Federation* shall consist of an Hon. President, Executive Council, and the affiliated members of each Club.

II. The *Executive Council* shall consist of a President, Vice-presidents, Hon. Secretary, Hon. Treasurer, Editor of Annual *Burns Chronicle*, and two Auditors—all of whom shall be elected annually and be eligible for re-election—also of the President, Vice-president, and Secretary of each affiliated Club, and other gentlemen of eminence as Burnsites nominated by the Executive.

III. All Past Presidents of the Federation shall *ex-officio* be members of the Executive Council.

OBJECTS OF THE FEDERATION.

1. To strengthen and consolidate the bond of fellowship existing amongst the members of Burns Clubs and kindred societies by universal affiliation.
2. To superintend the publication of works relating to Burns.
3. To acquire a fund for the purchase and preservation of Holograph Manuscripts and other Relics connected with the Life and Works of the Poet, and for other purposes of a like nature, as the Executive Council may determine.

RULES.

1. The Headquarters of the Federation shall be at Kilmarnock, the town in which the Federation was inaugurated and carried to a practical issue, and which contains the only properly organised Burns Library and Museum in the United Kingdom.

2. Properly organised Burns Clubs, St. Andrew's Societies, and kindred Associations may be admitted to the Federation by application in writing to the Hon. Secretary enclosing copy of Constitution and Rules.
3. The Registration Fee is 21s, on receipt of which the Diploma of the Federation shall be issued, after being numbered and signed by the President and Hon. Secretary.
4. Members of every Burns Club or Kindred Association registered by the Federation shall be entitled to receive a pocket Diploma on payment of 1s. *(These payments are final—not annual.)*
5. The Funds of the Federation shall be vested in the Executive Council for the purposes before-mentioned.
6. A meeting of the Executive Council shall be held annually during the Summer or Autumn months at such place as may be agreed upon by the Office-bearers, when reports on the year's transactions shall be submitted by the Hon. Secretary and Hon. Treasurer, and Office-bearers elected for the ensuing year.
7. A meeting of the Office-bearers shall take place some time before the Annual Meeting of the Executive Council to make the necessary arrangements for the same.
8. That each Federated Club shall subscribe 10s 6d per annum towards the fund for the publication of the *Burns Chronicle*.
9. Notice of any amendment or alteration of the Constitution or Rules of the Federation, to be considered at the Annual Meeting, must be sent in writing to the Hon. Secretary not later than the 31st March.

BENEFITS.

1. Registered Clubs are supplied free with copies of newspapers containing accounts of meetings, demonstrations, &c., organised, conducted, or attended by the Executive Council of the Federation, and of the Annual Meeting of the Kilmarnock Burns Club.
2. Exchange of fraternal greetings on the anniversary of the Poet's natal day.
3. Members of Registered Clubs who have provided themselves with pocket diplomas, are entitled to attend meetings of all Clubs on the Roll of the Federation, they being subject to the rules of the Club visited, but having no voice in its management unless admitted a member according to local form.
4. Members are entitled to be supplied through the Secretaries of their respective Clubs, with copies of all works published by the Federation, at a discount of 33⅓ per cent.

BOOKS PUBLISHED BY THE FEDERATION.

BURNS'S HOLOGRAPH MANUSCRIPTS in the Kilmarnock Monument Museum, with Notes		1889	1s 6d
BURNS'S CHRONICLE AND CLUB DIRECTORY,		1892	1s 0d
,,	,,	1893	1s 6d
,,	,,	1894	1s 6d
,,	,,	1895	1s 6d
,,	,,	1896	1s 6d
,,	,,	1897	1s 6d
,,	,,	1898	1s 6d
,,	,,	1899	1s 6d
,,	,,	1900	1s 6d
,,	,, (out of print)	1901	1s 6d
,,	,, ,,	1902	1s 6d
,,	,,	1903	1s 6d
,,	,,	1904	1s 6d
,,	,,	1905	1s 6d
,,	,,	1906	1s 6d
,,	,,	1907	1s 6d

A few copies of the back vols. may still be had on application to the Hon. Secretary. Increased prices are charged when the vols. are out of print.

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING

OF THE

BURNS FEDERATION.

GEORGE HOTEL,
KILMARNOCK, *1st September, 1906.*

THE annual meeting of the Executive Council of the Burns Federation was held here to-day at 11 o'clock. As the Federation on this occasion celebrated its coming of age, there was a very large gathering of delegates, and the whole day's proceedings were marked with great enthusiasm.

The following delegates were present :—

No. 0, Kilmarnock.—D. Murray, Captain Sneddon, Rev. Geo. Simpson Yuille, D. M'Naught, J. Brockie, T. Amos, Jas. Middleton, G. A. Innes and ex-Bailie Baird.

No. 1, London Robert Burns Club.—W. C. Daniels and Alex. Stephen.

No. 2, Alexandria.—Duncan Carswell.

No. 3, Glasgow Tam o' Shanter.—A. C. Baird.

No 9, Glasgow Royalty.—John M'Guffie and Robert Finlay.

No. 21, Greenock.—A. Kerr Bruce, James Nicoll, Alex. Ramsay, and A. J. Black.

No. 33, Glasgow Haggis.—Alex. Brown.

No. 36, Glasgow Rosebery.—Alex. Pollock, P. Smith, and Geo. Armour.

No. 50, Stirling.—John Craig and Ridley Sandeman.

No. 57, Thornliebank.—J. F. Buchanan, William Park, jun., and A. M'Callum.

No. 59, Gourock.—Provost Adam and ex-Bailie Wilson.

No. 67, Glasgow Carlton.—James Tudhope, Wm. Renfrew, and John Ballantine.

No. 75, Kirn.—Councillor Costelli and Thos. Reid.

No. 89, Sunderland.—W. H. Turner and A. W. Semple.

No. 97, Kilmarnock Bellfield.—J. Eccles, J. Carson, and E. Neilson.

No. 100, Hamilton Mossgiel.—T. Brown, W. Maxwell, and W. Hindshaw.

No. 113, Vale of Leven Glencairn.—Alex. Campbell.

No. 124, Edinburgh Ninety.—Adam Mackay.

No. 130, Row.—Ernest Page and Robert Sloan.

No. 133, Newarthill.—John Henshaw.

No. 134, Duntocher.—T. G. Forbes.

No. 135, Partick Western.—Jas. Webster and John A. Biggs.

No. 139, Glasgow National.—J. Jeffrey Hunter, Jas. Ballantyne, and Joseph Martin.

No. 140, Pollokshaws.—Robert M'Lean.

No. 142, Bonnybridge.—Walter Towers and Jas. C. Ferguson.

No. 143, Airdrie Gateside.—Robert B. Ferguson.

No. 145, Glasgow Central.—Wm. D. M'Laren.

No. 150, Kilmarnock Jolly Beggars.—Alex. Kerr, Ben Smith, and R. J. Green.

No. 151, Old Kilpatrick.—Thomas Forbes.

No. 155, East Stirlingshire, Falkirk.—Jas. Niven and Arch. Morrison.

Owing to the absence of the President, ex-Provost Mackay, through severe illness, the chair was, on the motion of Captain Sneddon, taken by Mr D. Murray, M.A., B.Sc., one of the Vice-presidents.

The Chairman, in a few well-chosen words, expressed the deep regret of the meeting at the absence of the President, and earnestly hoped that he might be spared for many years to preside over their meetings.

The minutes of last annual meeting, and of the Committee meetings held during the year, were read and approved of.

The Treasurer's statement was submitted and passed. It showed that during the year the income amounted to £62 18s 6d, and the expenditure to £26 11s, while the total funds on hand amounted to £241 12s 7d, as compared with £205 5s 1d last year—showing an increase of £36 7s 6d for the year.

Mr M'Naught, editor of the *Chronicle*, reported that the Glenriddel manuscripts, which he had been empowered to offer for, were still in the possession of Mr Dick, Newcastle, the sum offered being considered too small. He urged secretaries to send to him club notes without delay.

Mr Turner, Sunderland, in moving the adoption of the report, thought that the meeting should recognise the great work Mr M'Naught was doing on behalf of the Burns Clubs throughout the world.

Mr Jamieson, Glasgow, seconded the motion, and suggested that a more attractive colour and a new plate for the cover might be obtained with advantage.

Captain Sneddon, hon. secretary, and one of the three founders of the Federation, then gave a resume of the work that had been done since its inception in the year 1885. The Federation had been started in the very room in which the meeting was being held. The first nine annual meetings had been held in Kilmarnock, but since 1894 annual meetings had been held in Glasgow, Dundee, Greenock, Mauchline, Dumfries, Edinburgh, Stirling, and Hamilton. The Federation wished to receive into its fold every lover of Burns, no matter where he was located. Their motto was "A man's a man for a' that," and they wished to proclaim the universal brotherhood of man. The trio who founded the Federation were Provost Mackay, Colin Rae-Brown, and himself; the idea of a union of Burns worshippers everywhere, into a central body, being suggested on a visit to London, on the occasion of Burns's Bust being unveiled in Westminster Abbey, by Lord Rosebery, in 1885. During their twenty-one years' existence, some of the outstanding events in which the Federation had taken a prominent part and done much work were:—The Centenary of the publication of the first edition in Kilmarnock; the prosecution of "Antique" Smith for forging Burns MSS.; the opening of the Mauchline Memorial Homes; the Centenary celebrations at Irvine, Dumfries, and Glasgow; the opening of the Burns Exhibition in Glasgow; &c., &c. At present

they were busy with the movement for the preservation of the Ayr Auld Brig. In 1899 their late friend Mr Wm. Freeland introduced the subject of a Burns lectureship in Scottish literature, and although this was shelved for the present, he hoped to see the wish so dear to Mr Freeland's heart fully realised. In 1892 the Federation started the *Chronicle*. For this they deserve the thanks of all lovers of the poet. He had been assured by Dr Wallace of the *Glasgow Herald* that no editor need attempt to write a new work on Burns unless he had a complete file of the *Chronicle* beside him. He concluded by stating that the Federation, which started in 1885, had now 155 clubs on the roll, mostly of course in the United Kingdom, with several in Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and the United States of America.

On the motion of the Chairman, a hearty vote of thanks was given to Captain Sneddon for his interesting and exhaustive report.

Mr Ballantine enquired if the representatives appointed last year for large towns had done their work ?

In reply, the Secretary said that the returns for the Directory were much fuller.

Mr Adam Mackay, Edinburgh Ninety Club, was appointed representative for Edinburgh, and it was agreed that his name, along with Mr Turner, Sunderland, and Mr Wardrop, Glasgow, be published in the *Chronicle*.

Mr Amos reported that the Committee selected to organise the song competition had selected twelve of the less known songs of Burns, and had offered a prize of ten guineas for the most successful melody set to one of these songs. Enquiries had been sent by 247 persons from all parts of Great Britain and several from the Continent. Up to the 31st of August 169 different melodies had been sent in, and he now asked for a Committee to deal with these.

A Committee, consisting of Messrs M'Naught, Innes, Amos, Pollock, White, and Alexander, was appointed, with power to consult with an expert. The Committee was asked to report their finding to the Executive Committee.

Mr J. Jeffrey Hunter moved that the following circular, which he had drawn up, be issued by the Federation on behalf of the Preservation Fund for the Auld Brig o' Ayr :—

Dear Sir,—The Federation earnestly commends all Burns Clubs and Scottish Societies throughout the world, whether connected with the Federation or not, to heartily support the scheme for the preservation of the Auld Brig o' Ayr.

It is felt that the Brig is a national monument which ought not on any account to be destroyed. The sum necessary for its preservation is £10,000, of which about half has been secured. Clubs and Societies are recommended (1) to at once set about promoting in each district a concert of Scottish music, the nett proceeds to be devoted to the preservation fund ; (2) to issue subscription sheets among their members and members of the public inviting a minimum subscription of 1s from each person ; (3) at the Anniversary meeting on 25th January, and also at their meetings throughout the winter season, to make appeals for subscriptions and accept payment of same; and (4) to make as large as possible a donation from the club funds where such are available.

On behalf of the Federation I ask you to call a special meeting of your club immediately with a view to considering the various points contained in this circular.

All sums raised by whatever method should be remitted to the treasurer of the preservation fund, Mr W. J. Pollock, Bank of Scotland, Ayr; or Mr John Brown, Union Bank of Scotland, 225 Buchanan Street, Glasgow.

Mr Jeffrey Hunter's motion was unanimously adopted.

Messrs Turner and Semple from Sunderland gave the Federation a very hearty invitation to attend the next annual meeting, which is to be held in Sunderland. It was agreed that a month's notice of this meeting be given to all the clubs.

Captain Sneddon intimated that the Burns Club of St. Andrews invited the Federation to hold the annual meeting of 1908 in St. Andrews, and the invitation was cordially accepted.

On the motion of ex-Bailie Hugh Alexander, the existing office-bearers were re-elected, and there were added to the list of Vice-presidents the names of Mr Alex. Pollock, Mr Joseph Martin, and Alderman Wm. Burns, of Sunderland.

Mr Jamieson moved that the *Chronicle* be published in a new cover. This was agreed to, and left in the hands of the Committee.

Mr Brown, Hamilton, moved, and Mr Martin, Glasgow, seconded, that the sum of £25 be allowed for original articles for the forthcoming *Chronicle*.

In answer to a question put by Mr Turner, Sunderland, the Chairman ruled that when a man ceases to be a member of his own club he ceases to be a member of the Federation.

A very hearty vote of thanks to the Chairman for the able way in which he had presided closed the business meeting.

DRIVE AND DINNER.

After the business meeting the delegates and their lady friends drove to the Kay Park and examined the famous collection of Burns manuscripts housed in the Burns Monument there. A photograph of the company was taken on the steps of the Monument, and the company, under the guidance of Parish Councillor Sinclair, then visited many of the places in Auld Killie rendered famous by the poet. Tam Samson's house, "Wee Johnny's" printing shop, Begbie's Inn, Riccarton Kirk, and the Laigh Kirk were all in turn visited, and the company returned to the George Hotel for dinner.

The dinner was attended by upwards of 120 ladies and gentlemen. Provost Hood presided, and Mr Jas. Middleton, President of Kilmarnock Burns Club, acted as croupier. Dinner was excellently purveyed by Mr Bell.

Apologies for absence were intimated from Sir Jas. Sivewright, K.C.M.G., Mr W. D. Ross, of *Black and White*, Col. R. M. M'Kerrell, &c., &c.

Provost Hood, in the course of his opening remarks, regretted very much the absence of ex-Provost Mackay, President of the Federation. In the name of the town he gave a very cordial welcome to the delegates.

In an eloquent speech, Mr A. Kerr Bruce, Greenock, proposed the toast of "The Burns Federation." Referring to the work done by ex-Provost Mackay, Captain Sneddon, and Mr M'Naught, he said that these enthusiasts even in their most sanguine moments never dreamt that the Federation would prove so successful as it had done.

At this stage of the proceedings Captain Sneddon was presented with a very handsome solid silver tray, along with a diamond ornament for Mrs Sneddon, in recognition of his services as hon. secretary to the Federation since its inception.

In making the presentation, ex-Bailie Hugh Alexander, Glasgow, said that no one could have undertaken this duty with greater goodwill. It was impossible to recompense Captain Sneddon for all the time and money he had expended on their behalf during these 21 years, and when they asked him to accept their gifts they did so in the knowledge that he would not regard them for their intrinsic value, but as the heart-offering of a very grateful Burns people.

Captain Sneddon, on rising to reply, had a most enthusiastic reception. He assured the meeting that he appreciated their handsome gifts all the more since they had been presented by such a close friend as Bailie Alexander, and he thanked most gratefully all those who had so generously responded to the appeal made for a testimonial in recognition of his services. Both Mrs Sneddon and he looked on the gifts as gifts of true and warm-hearted admirers of the Ayrshire Bard. He expressed a hope that he might be able to stand at the wheel for another 21 years to guide the fortunes of the Federation.

Mr J. A. Morris gave an address on the position of affairs in connection with the Auld Brig o' Ayr. In the course of his remarks he told the meeting, amid great applause, that Lord Rosebery had agreed to address a meeting in Ayr on the 1st of October on behalf of the venerable structure.

Provost Adam, Gourock, proposed "The Local Burns Clubs," and the Rev. George Simpson Yuille, B.D., vice-president of Kilmarnock Burns Club, made an eloquent reply.

Mr Turner, Sunderland, proposed "Auld Killie," to which Mr G. A. Innes replied.

The other toasts were—"The Editor of the *Chronicle*," by ex-Bailie Alexander; "The Croupier," by ex-Bailie Maybery; "The Lasses," by Mr Thomas Reid; and "The Chairman," by Mr Daniels, London.

During the proceedings Mrs Innes gave a splendid rendering of "There was a lad," and songs were also sung by Mr Innes, ex-Bailie Alexander, and Mr Thomas Reid.

The arrangements were admirably carried through by a joint committee of the Kilmarnock, Bellfield, and Jolly Beggars' Burns Clubs of Kilmarnock, under the able chairmanship of Mr Jas. Middleton.

THOMAS AMOS, *Assist. Secy.*

Alphabetical List of Federated Clubs.

No. 40. Aberdeen.
84. Abington.
23. Adelaide.
20. Airdrie.
143. Airdrie—Gateside.
2. Alexandria.
6. Alloa.
82. Arbroath.
123. Auchinleck.
19. Auckland.
157. Baillieston Caledonia.
99. Barlinnie.
12. Barrow-in-Furness.
64. Beith.
15. Belfast.
30. Blackburn.
125. Blackburn-on-Avon.
95 Bolton.
29. Bolton Juniors.
119 Bonhill.
142. Bonnybridge.
76. Brechin.
120. Bristol.
114. Brodick.
106. Broxburn—Rosebery.
4. Callander.
110. Cambuslang.
87. Campsie.
71. Carlisle.
102. Carlisle—Border.
81. Carstairs Junction.
11. Chesterfield
51. Chicago.
138. Cleland.
93. Clydebank.
103. Coalburn—Rosebery.
79. Corstorphine.
127. Cowdenbeath—Haggis.
128. Cowdenbeath—Glencairn.
42. Crieff.
66. Crossgates.
45. Cumnock.
86. Cumnock — The Winsome Willie.
62. Cupar.
35. Dalry.
158. Darlington.
122. Darnconner.
55. Derby.
37. Dollar.
146. Dublin.
10. Dumbarton.

No. 52. Dumfries—Mechanics'.
104. Dumfries Oak.
112. Dumfries Howff.
14. Dundee.
69. Dunedin.
80. Dunoon—Cowal.
85. Dunfermline—United.
134. Duntocher—Heron.
5. Earlston.
108. East Calder.
22. Edinburgh.
111. Edinburgh—South.
124. Edinburgh—Ninety.
155. East Stirlingshire.
149. Elgin.
126. Falkirk.
44. Forfar.
90. Garelochhead.
3. Glasgow—Tam o' Shanter.
7. ,, Thistle.
9. ,, Royalty.
24. ,, Bank.
27. ,, Springburn.
33. ,, Haggis.
34. ,, Carrick.
36. ,, Rosebery.
38. ,, Jolly Beggars.
39. ,, St. David's.
41. ,, Dennistoun.
43. ,, Northern.
47. ,, St. Rollox.
49. ,, Bridgeton.
61. ,, Glencairn.
63. ,, Mossgiel.
67. ,, Carlton.
68. ,, Sandyford.
70. ,, St. Rollox Jolly Beggars.
74. ,, Mauchline Soc.
78. ,, Ardgowan.
83. ,, Co-operative.
88. ,, Caledonian.
107. ,, Hutchesontown.
109. ,, Caledonia.
117. ,, Southern.
118. ,, Albany.
139. ,, National.
145. ,, Central.
153. ,, The Scottish.
129. ,, Gorbals.
59. Gourock—Jolly Beggars.

No. 53. Govan—Fairfield.
116. Greenloaning.
21. Greenock.
148. Greenock—Cronies.
152. Hamilton.
100. ,, Mossgiel.
121. ,, Junior.
136. ,, Royal Oak.
137. Ipswich.
96. Jedburgh.
154. Johannesburg, S.A.
92. Kilbowie.
0. Kilmarnock.
97. ,, Bellfield.
150. ,, Jolly Beggars.
115. Kippen.
58. Kirkcaldy.
75. Kirn.
98. Lanark.
144. Larbert and Stenhousemuir.
73. Lenzie.
18. Liverpool.
1. London.
28. Mauchline — The Jolly Beggars.
8. Morpeth (dormant).
101. Motherwell.
56. Muirkirk—Lapraik.
65. Musselburgh.
32. Newark.
133. Newarthall.

No. 156. Newcastle and Tyneside.
131. Nottingham.
17. ,, (dormant).
151. Old Kilpatrick.
48. Paisley.
77. ,, Gleniffer.
161. ,, Charleston.
72. Partick.
135. ,, Western.
26. Perth.
54. ,, St. Johnstone.
140. Pollokshaws.
132. Riccarton—Kirkstyle.
130. Row.
105. Rutherglen.
31. San Francisco.
91. Shettleston.
13. St. Andrews.
50. Stirling.
141. Stonehouse.
147. ,, Haggis.
89. Sunderland.
16. Sydney.
57. Thornliebank.
94. Uphall.
113. Vale of Leven—Glencairn.
159. Walker-on-Tyne.
46. Warwickshire.
160. Whitburn.
25. Winnipeg.
60. Wolverhampton.

DIRECTORY

OF

BURNS CLUBS AND SCOTTISH SOCIETIES

ON THE

ROLL OF THE BURNS FEDERATION, 1907.

No. 0.—KILMARNOCK Burns Club. Instituted 1808. Federated 1885. Place and date of meeting, George Hotel, 25th January, at 8 p.m. President, Rev. G. Simpson Yuille, B.D., Edgehill Manse; Vice-president, Sheriff Mackenzie, Crookedholm House, Hurlford; *Secretary*, Thomas Amos, M.A., Sunnyside, Glebe Road, Kilmarnock; Committee, Capt. D. Sneddon, V.D., J.P.; D. M'Naught, J.P.; J. Brockie, J.P.; D. Murray, M.A., B.Sc.; ex-Bailie Kerr, B.L.; G. A. Innes, F.E.I.S.; Geo. Dunlop, J.P.; J. B. Wilson, J.P.; Wm. M'Menan, B.A.; R. D. Tannahill, F.S.I.; Bailie M. Robertson, J.P.; James Middleton, J.P.; Wm. Heron, Robert Wylie, Jas. King, Capt. D. Yuille, and Capt. G. H. Wilson.

No. 1.—LONDON Robert Burns Club.—Instituted 1868. Federated 1885. Place and date of meeting, various. President, Dr James M'I. M'Call, 4 Whitehall Place, S.W.; *Secretary*, W. C. Daniels, 3 Stamford Hill Mansions, Stamford Hill, London, N.; Committee, R. Gunn Mackay, F. W. Warren, A. Stephen, T. F. Myers, Arthur R. Molison, E. J. Milner Allen, Harold Clunn, T. Ernest Price, C. J. Smith, H. D. Faith, and Stewart Stockman.

No. 2.—ALEXANDRIA Burns Club. Instituted 1884. Federated 1885. Place and date of meeting, Village School, first Friday of each month. President, Matthew Campbell, 29 Susannah Street; Vice-president, William Livsey, 20 Levenbank Terrace, Jamestown; *Secretary*, Duncan Carswell, Linnbrane Terrace, Alexandria; Treasurer, James Merrilees, Hill Street; Committee, T. Browning, A. M'Farlane, Hugh M'Nevin, John M'Gowan, James M'Kenzie, and Robert Birrell.

No. 3.—GLASGOW Tam o' Shanter Club. Instituted 1880. Federated 1885. Place and date of meeting, White & Smith's Restaurant, Glassford Street, last Tuesday of October, November, December, February, and March, and 25th January. President, D. W. Threshie, M.A., Writer, 141 Bath Street; Vice-president, John Carmichael, 27 Blythswood Drive; *Secretary*, Andrew C. Baird, 141 Bath Street, Glasgow; Committee, Messrs Hunter, Smith, Ritchie, Crawford, Altmann, Thomson, Milne, Watson, Forrest, Renfrew, and M'Kenzie. Special features of Club—Cultivation of works of Burns and Scottish literature and music generally.

No. 4.—CALLANDER Burns Club. Instituted 1877. Federated 1885. *Secretary*, James S. Anderson, Callander.

No. 5.—ERCILDOUNE Burns Club. Instituted January, 1885. Federated 26th November, 1885. Place of meeting, Red Lion Hotel. President, Alex. Brown, Commercial Bank, Earlston; Vice-presidents, G. L. M'Donald, Station Road, Earlston, and George Miles, High Street, Earlston; *Secretary*, Archibald M. Black, Market Place, Earlston.

No. 6.—ALLOA Burns Club (formerly Alloa Haggis Club). Instituted 1873. Federated 1896. *Secretary*, R. Tait Melville, 44 Mill Street, Alloa.

No. 7.—GLASGOW Thistle Burns Club. Instituted 1882. Federated 1885. Place of meeting, 24 Thistle Street, S.S. President, Andrew Kerr, 24 Thistle Street, S.S.; Vice-president, Richard Bogie, 28 Napiershall Street; *Secretary*, D. R. Montgomery, 122 South Portland Street, Glasgow; Treasurer, John Eadie, 12 Bridge Street, S.S.

No. 8.—MORPETH and District Burns Club (dormant). Last *Secretary*, John Dobson, Oldgate Street, Morpeth.

No. 9.—GLASGOW Royalty Burns Club. Instituted 1882. Federated 1886. President, John M'Guffie, 143 Argyle Street; Vice-president, John Drake, West Nile Street; *Secretary*, W. Campbell Rodger, 44 Bath Street, Glasgow; Committee, Robert Anderson, Richard Caufield, Alexander Goodall, Robert Finlay, John Gibson, James M'Nicoll.

No. 10.—DUMBARTON Burns Club. Instituted 1859. Federated 1886. Place and date of meeting, Elephant Hotel, 25th January, 1907, at 7.30 p.m. President, James Wilson, 18 Strathleven Place; Vice-president, Wm. Baird, Union Bank House; *Interim Secretary*, Wm. Baird, Union Bank House, Dumbarton; Committee, Dr M'Lachlan, M.D.; Bailie Kirk, Major W. B. Thomson, V.D.; Provost M'Farlan, John M'Clelland, Charles M'Kinnon, and Jas. Nimmo. Special features of Club—Celebration of the Poet's Birthday.

No. 11.—CHESTERFIELD Burns Society. Federated 1886. *Secretary*, George Edward Drennan, 77 Salter Gate, Chesterfield, Derbyshire.

No. 12.—BARROW-IN-FURNESS Burns Club. Federated 1886. *Secretary*, Alex. M'Naught, 4 Ramsden Square, Barrow-in-Furness.

No. 13.—ST. ANDREWS Burns Club. Instituted 1869. Federated 1886. Place and date of meeting, Cross Keys Hotel. Annual Dinner on 25th January, 1907. President, Andrew Bennett, The University, St. Andrews; Vice-president, Jas. Clement, Balcaithly, Stravithie, R.S.O., near St. Andrews; *Secretary*, W. G. M. Brown, 116 South Street, St. Andrews; Committee, Provost Murray, Bailie Goodwillie, Dr Hunter Paton, Cargill Cantley, M. A. Provan, and D. Hunter. 140 members.

No. 14.—DUNDEE Burns Club. Instituted 1860. Federated 1886. Place and time of meeting, 36 Nethergate, Dundee, first Wednesday of every month, at 8.30 p.m. President, Thomas Bennet, 36 Nethergate; Vice president, James L. Christie, 36 Nethergate; *Secretary*, James Binny, 36 Nethergate, Dundee; Curator, John A. Purvis; Treasurer and Librarian, Edward Dobson.

No. 15.—BELFAST Burns Club. Instituted 1872. Federated 1886. *Secretary*, Barclay M'Conky, Belfast.

No. 16.—SYDNEY Burns Club. Instituted 1880. Federated 1886. *Secretary*, W. Telfer, School of Arts, Pitt Street, Sydney, N.S.W.

No. 17.—NOTTINGHAM Scottish Society (dormant). Federated 1886.

No. 18.—LIVERPOOL Burns Club. Instituted 1877. Federated 1886. *Secretary*, James M'William, 8 Normandy Street, Liverpool.

No. 19.—AUCKLAND Burns Club and Literary Society. Instituted 1884. Federated 1886. *Secretary*, John Horn, Wellington Street, Auckland, N.Z.

No. 20.—AIRDRIE Burns Club. Instituted 1885. Federated 1886. Place and date of next statutory meeting, Royal Hotel, Airdrie, January 25th, at 6.45 p.m. President, John W. Findlay, South Bridge Street; Vice-president, Major Motherwell, T.L.R.E., East High Street; *Secretary*, R. C. Platt, 72 South Bridge Street, Airdrie; Treasurer, S. Rogerson, Holmbank, Chapel Street; Committee, John Watson, Wm. Anderson, R. Monteith, R. Frew, and Robt. Robertson.

No. 21.—GREENOCK Burns Club. Instituted 1802. Federated 1886. Place of meeting, Club Rooms, Nicolson Street. President, Alex. Gemmell, M.A., Rector of Greenock Academy; Vice-presidents, Major W. Campbell, Roslyn, Port-Glasgow, and John Duncan, Ardenclutha, Port-Glasgow; *Joint Secretaries*, Colin C. MacCulloch, 25 West Burn Street, and Peter Grieve, 26 Brisbane Street; Treasurer, Hugh Ritchie, accountant, Municipal Buildings, Wallace Square; Committee, W. B. Ingram, John Barbour, T. P. M'Callum, Alex. Ramsay, and J. M'K. Farquhar; House Convener, James Buchanan; Librarian, James Barron; Director of Music, Tom Graham. Special features of the club—Club rooms are open to members at any time; keys with Curator on premises, 36 Nicolson Street. Library has valuable collection of editions of Burns, Fergusson, Galt, &c., and the walls are covered with signed portraits, including those of some of the most distinguished men in the country, who are honorary members of the Club. The Club makes a special feature of intervisitation meetings with Burns Clubs in the West of Scotland, also of ladies' nights. Visitors are always welcome to attend Club meetings. The Greenock Club is the oldest Burns Club in the world.

No. 22.—EDINBURGH Burns Club. Instituted 1848. Federated 1886. *Secretary*, George T. Clunie, C.A., 2 St. Andrew Square, Edinburgh.

No. 23.—ADELAIDE South Australian Caledonian Society. Instituted 1881. Federated 1886. *Secretary*, H. G. M'Krittick, Society's Office, 70 Grenfield Street, Adelaide, S.A.

No. 24.—GLASGOW BANK Burns Club. Instituted 1844. Federated 1886.

No. 25.—WINNIPEG St. Andrew's Society. Federated 1886. *Secretary*, David Phillip, Government Buildings, Winnipeg, Man.

No. 26.—PERTH Burns Club. Instituted 1873. Federated 1886. *Secretary*, James Harper, 68 St. John Street, Perth.

No. 27.—SPRINGBURN Burns Club. Instituted 1884. Federated 25th June, 1886. Place of meeting, T. D. Wilson's Rooms, 771 Springburn Road. President, Robert Gibson, 400 Parliamentary Road, Glasgow; Vice-president, Robert Gray, Rocklea Cottage, Bishopbriggs; *Secretary*, Cameron Henderson, Syriam Terrace, Springburn; Treasurer, George Sloss, 426 Springburn Road.

No. 28.—THE JOLLY BEGGARS Burns Club, Mauchline.

No. 29.—BOLTON Junior Burns Club. Instituted 1881. Federated 1886. *Secretary*, Harry George, 32 Halstead Street, The Harregh, Bolton.

No. 30.—BLACKBURN Burns Club. Instituted 1884. Federated 9th July, 1886. Place of meeting, Victoria Hotel; annual meeting in November, and occasional meetings until January 25th. President, William Ferguson, 40 Ainsworth Street; Vice-president, John Smith, Union Street; *Secretary and Treasurer*, Robert Ferguson, Solicitor, 9 Tacketts Street, Blackburn; Committee, J. Little, J. M'Vittie, W. Maxwell, J. Forbes, T. Ferguson, J. Rutherford, J. Robertson, F. S. Jardine, J Graham, J. Shorrock, F. Wilkinson, W. Wallbank, and J. W. Barton. Special features of Club—(1) To commemorate the birthday of Burns; (2) to encourage the study of Burns and of the Scottish Poets, and of literature generally.

No. 31.—SAN FRANCISCO Scottish Thistle Club. Instituted 1882. Federated 1886. *Recorder*, George W Paterson, 801 Guerero Street, San Francisco.

No. 32 —NEWARK Caledonian Club. Federated 1886. *Secretary*, John Hogg, Caledonian Club, Newark, New Jersey, U.S A.

No. 33.—GLASGOW Haggis Club. Instituted 1872. Federated 1886. Place and date of meeting, M'Culloch's, 109 Argyle Street, last Friday of February, March, April, September, October, November, and December, at 8 o'clock. President, Alexander Brown, 10 Argyle Arcade; Vice-president, David Macfarlane, 48 Dixon Avenue; *Secretary*, Joseph Martin, Solicitor, 163 West George Street, Glasgow; Treasurer, Hugh B. Stewart, 74 York Street.

No. 34.—GLASGOW Carrick Burns Club. Instituted 1859. Federated 1887. Place and date of meeting, 62 Glassford Street, Glasgow, last Tuesday of each month at 7.30. President, James Weir, 21 Hillfoot Street, Dennistoun; Vice-president, T. G. Jamieson, 83 Washington Street; *Secretary*, Thomas Ferguson, 412 Parliamen-

tary Road, Glasgow; Treasurer, Robert Norval, 8 Park Drive South, Whiteinch. 30 members. Special features of Club—Study of Burns and kindred literature.

No. 35.—DALRY Burns Club. Instituted 1826. Federated 1887. Date of meeting, Friday evening nearest 25th January. President, Hugh Higgins, merchant, Allandale, Dalry; Vice-president, George Houston, Linn, Dalry; *Corresponding Secretary*, J. Hunter Hamilton, Solicitor, 21 Clifford Street, Ibrox, Glasgow; *Recording Secretary*, David Johnstone, M.A., Tintagel, Dalry; Treasurer, Robert Comrie, Waterside, Dalry Special features of Club—The Club has met annually in the same place since 1826, and all meetings are minuted in the Records; no reporters admitted.

No. 36.—GLASGOW Rosebery Burns Club. Instituted 1885. Federated 1887. Place of meeting, Alexandra Hotel. President, Wm. Allan, 7 Park Road, Glasgow; Vice-president, Charles F. M'Pherson, 3 Holmhead Crescent, Cathcart; *Secretary*, Peter Smith, 56 Cathedral Street, Glasgow; Committee, John M'William, Wm. C. Goldie, Thos. W. Brown, John A. Biggs, L.D.S., John R. Colquhoun, and James Ferguson. Competitive Concert Committee, James Angus, Geo. Armour, James Murray, James Walsh, with Alex. Pollock, convener. Director of Music, George M. Weir, A. Mus.; Pianist, Andrew Cockle; Librarian, John Smith. Special features of Club—A series of Lectures on Scottish Literature and History during the winter months; Competitions (senior and junior) for the encouragement of the study of Scottish songs, especially those of Burns.

No. 37.—DOLLAR Burns Club. Instituted 1887. Federated 1887. Place of meeting, Castle Campbell Hotel, Dollar. President, John M'Cruther, Ochilview; Vice-president, J. Pender, Oakbank; *Secretary*, Samuel T. Hemming, Station Road, Dollar; Treasurer, J. Fleming; Committee, R. Waddell, R. Howden, W. G. Cruickshank, R. Malcolm, C. S. Dougall, D. Wilkie, and W. G. Hunter.

No. 38.—GLASGOW Jolly Beggars Burns Club. Instituted 1887. Federated 1888.

No. 39.—GLASGOW St. David's Burns Club. Instituted 1887. Federated 1889.

No. 40.—ABERDEEN Burns Club. Instituted 1887. Federated 1889. President, James M'Intosh, 50 Mushit Hall, Aberdeen.

No. 41.—DENNISTOUN Burns Club. Instituted 1886. Federated 1889. *Secretary*, John B. M'Intosh, 300 Duke Street, Glasgow.

No. 42.—CRIEFF Burns Club. Instituted 1889. Federated 1891. *Secretary*, William Pickard, Meadow Place, Crieff.

No. 43.—GLASGOW Northern Burns Club. Federated 1891. *Secretary*, James Weir, 216 New City Road, Glasgow.

No. 44.—FORFAR Burns Club Instituted 1890. Federated 1891. *Secretary*, Henry Rae, 14 Montrose Road, Forfar.

No. 45.—CUMNOCK Burns Club. Instituted 1887. Federated 1891. *Secretary*, H. R. M'Culley, Hazlebank, Cumnock.

No. 46.—WARWICKSHIRE Burns Club. Instituted 1888. Federated 1891. *Secretary*, Robert Greenfield, F.R.H.S., Ranelagh Nursery, Leamington.

No. 47.—GLASGOW St. Rollox Burns Club. Instituted 1889. Federated 1891. Place and date of meetings, 184 Castle Street, Glasgow, last Friday of Sept., Oct., Nov., Dec., Feb , and March, and January annual supper. President, Adam Paterson, 50 Glebe Street ; Vice-president, Robert Brown, 684 Gallowgate Street ; *Secretary*, R. J. Carruthers, 24 Broompark Drive, Glasgow ; Treasurer, Donald Crawford ; Steward, James Ritchie.

No. 48.—PAISLEY Burns Club. Instituted 1805. Federated 1891. Date of meeting, first Thursday of each month, Sept. to April. President, Alex. Fullarton, Fordbank, Milliken Park ; Vice-president, A. Macwilliam, Monkshaw ; *Secretary*, James A. D. MacKean, 8 Garthland Place, Paisley. Limited by constitution to 40 members.

No. 49.—GLASGOW Bridgeton Burns Club. Instituted 1870. Federated 1891. President, Peter White, 7 Morris Place ; Vice-president, Dr Robert Wilson, 38 Monteith Row ; *Secretary*, Wm. Cochran, Writer, 190 West George Street ; Assistant Secretary, J. Tullis Cochran ; Treasurer, Jas. Murray ; Directors, Dr Munro, Daniel Duncan, William M'Allister, William Reid, Robert Sadler, Andrew Hoy, F.E.I.S., J. M. Campbell, George H. Laird, and James M. Cullen. Special feature of Club—Competition for children for singing, reciting, and explaining Burns's works.

No. 50.—STIRLING Burns Club. Instituted 1887. Federated 1891. Place and date of meeting, Station Hotel, 25th January, at 8 p.m. President, John Craig, Laurel Hill Nursery ; *Secretary*, Ridley Sandeman, 22 Firth Crescent ; Treasurer, J. C. Muirhead, 4 Port Street ; Committee, D B. Morris, A. Buchanan, A. Dun, R. B. Philip, R. Menzies, J. Brown, A. Love, W. A. Weir, J. E. Thurman, W. Cunningham, J. King, J. Mann, P. Hunter, A. Sands, R. Walker, and J. F. Oswald.

No. 51.—CHICAGO Caledonian Society. Federated 1892. *Secretary*, Charles T. Spence, 3002 Wabash Avenue, Chicago.

No. 52.—DUMFRIES Mechanics' Burns Club. Federated 1892. *Secretary*, James Anderson, 55 St. Michael Street, Dumfries.

No. 53.—GOVAN (Fairfield) Burns Club. Instituted 25th January, 1886. Federated 23rd September, 1892. Place and date of meeting, 4 Holm Street, Govan, first Wednesday of month of September till March. President, George Sinclair, 68 Langlands Road ; Vice-president, Wm. Brownlie, 4 Langlands Road ; *Secretary*, Chas. Maltman, 16 M'Kechnie Street, Govan ; Treasurer, Robt. Ferguson, 46 Fairfield Street ; Hon. Presidents, Geo. Maclachlan and ex-Bailie Hugh Lymburn ; Hon. Vice-president, Thos. Black ; Committee, James R. Lean, Andrew Torrance, and Leonard Pitt.

No. 54.—PERTH St. Johnstone Burns Club. Federated 1892. *Secretary*, Thomas M'Gregor, 15 Balhousie Street, Perth.

No. 55.—DERBY Burns Club. Federated 1892. *Secretary*, Geo. M'Lauchlan, 49 Molyneaux Street, Derby.

No. 56. MUIRKIRK Lapraik Burns Club. Instituted 1893. Federated 1893. Place and date of meeting, Eglinton Arms Hotel, Jan. 25th, at 7.30. President, Robert Morrison, Eglinton Arms Hotel; Vice-president, John Colthart, Victoria Buildings, Muirkirk; *Secretary*, Hugh Cameron, Main Street, Muirkirk; Treasurer, A. Pringle. Committee, Dr Marshall, Richard Bell, D. Greenwood, J. Taylor, Thomas Weir. Special features of Club—Observance of Hallowe'en and 25th January.

No. 57. —THORNLIEBANK Burns Club. Instituted 25th January, 1891. Federated 1893. Place and date of meeting, Club Room, occasional and anniversaries. President, John Neilson, Lochiel Terrace; Vice president, Robert Hutton, North Park; *Secretary*, Wm. Park, jun., Main Street, Thornliebank. 15 members of committee; 85 members. Special features of Club—School children's competition, Scotch concert, annual outing, and club meetings.

No. 58. KIRKCALDY Burns Club. Federated 1892. *Secretary*, John A. Miller, 12 Quality Street, Kirkcaldy.

No. 59.—GOUROCK Jolly Beggars Burns Club. Instituted 4th February, 1893. Federated 1893. President, James Adam, Park Lea; Vice-president, John Ogg, Mather House, Cove Road; *Secretary*, Peter Weir, Broomberry Terrace, Gourock; Treasurer, Joseph Wilson, 40 Kempock Street.

No. 60.—WOLVERHAMPTON Burns Club. Federated 1893. *Secretary*, James Killin, Beechgrove, Compton Road, Wolverhampton.

No. 61.—GLASGOW Glencairn Burns Club. Federated 1893. *Secretary*, James Laing, 218 Wall Street, Glasgow.

No. 62.—CUPAR Burns Club. Instituted 1893. Federated 1893. President, Major W. Anstruther Gray, M.P., Kilmany, by Cupar; *Secretary*, Philip Sulley, F.S.A., Cupar; Treasurer, William Mackay, 78 Crossgate, Cupar.

No. 63 —GLASGOW Mossgiel Burns Club. Federated 1893. *Secretary*, J. M. Blair.

No. 64.—BEITH Burns Club. Federated 1893. *Secretary*, James S. Anderson, Craigwell, Beith.

No. 65.—MUSSELBURGH Burns Club. Instituted 1886. Federated 1894. Place and date of meeting, M'Donald's Hall, 25th January. President, Provost Simpson, New Street; Vice-president, W. Andrew, Pittencrieff; *Secretary*, Will. Constable, 84 Inveresk Road; Treasurer, W. Stewart, Monktonhall; Committee, R. C. Menzies, W. Walker, H. L. Sanderson, J. R. Newlands, John Murray, A. S. Bourhill, John Dobbie, J. B. Henderson, and A. W. Millar. Membership over 200.

No. 66.—CROSSGATES Burns Club. Federated 1894. *Secretary*, Robert Dall, Addison's Buildings, Crossgates.

No. 67.—GLASGOW Carlton Burns Club. Instituted 1894. Federated 1894. Place and date of meeting, M'Culloch's Restaurant, 109 Argyle Street, first Tuesday of Nov., Dec., Jan., Feb., March, April, and Oct., at 7.30 p.m. President, James Tudhope, 44 Roslea Drive; Vice president, William Moffatt, M.A., Stonelaw Public School, Rutherglen; *Secretary*, W. J. Straiton, 600 Dalmarnock Road; Committee, D. Davidson, R. Fyfe, A. M'Clure, Jas. Learmonth, J. Anderson, Wm. Thomson, G. C. Brown, J. Ballantine, N. J. M'Culloch, Bailie A. Campbell, G. Stark, T. Cameron, J. H. Pearson, and Jas. Ballantine.

No. 68.—GLASGOW Sandyford Burns Club. Instituted 1893. Federated 1894. Place of meeting, 100 West Regent Street, Glasgow. President, Andrew Hewat, J.P., 9 Berkeley Terrace; Vice-president, Colin Young, I.M., 124 St. Vincent Street; *Secretary*, Andrew P. Hamilton, Writer, 100 West Regent Street; Committee, Bailie Edward Guest, James P. M'Phie, Robert Hislop, George Paterson, William Winthrope, Bailie Robert S. Brown, Captain W. M. Douglas, William Logan, Neil Sinclair, James Stirrat, David Sedorski, John Bruce, James Michie, and Andrew Gemmell.

No 69.—DUNEDIN Burns Club. Federated 1894. *Secretary*, William Brown, Choral Hall, Dunedin, N.Z.

No. 70.—GLASGOW St. Rollox Jolly Beggars Burns Club. Federated 1894.

No. 71.—CARLISLE Burns Club. Instituted 1885. Federated 1895. Place and date of meeting, Great Central Hotel, Carlisle, monthly, at 8 p.m. President, J. Malcolm, Harraby; Vice-presidents, Dr Bird, M.D., J. Porteous, Rev. A. Davidson, F. Jones, T. Caton, D. Main, and G. O. Muir; *Secretary and Treasurer*, John Jardine, 20 Broad Street, Carlisle; *Assistant Secretary*, W. A. Mather, 37 Chiswick Street, Carlisle. Special features of Club—Literary.

No. 72.—PARTICK Burns Club. Federated 1895. *Secretary*, Wm. Scott Wyllie, Writer, 149 St. Vincent Street, Glasgow.

No. 73.—LENZIE Burns Club. Federated 1896. *Secretary*, James Moir, The Neuk, Lenzie.

No. 74.—GLASGOW Mauchline Society. Instituted 1888. Federated 1895. Hon. President, J. B. Thorneycroft of Hillhouse, Netherplace, Mauchline; President, David Davidson, 85 Armadale Street, Glasgow; Vice-president, Rev. Wilson Baird, Mauchline; *Secretary*, William Campbell, 166 Buchanan Street, Glasgow; Treasurer, Thomas Killin, 168 West George Street, Glasgow; Directors, Bailie H. Alexander, A. G. Alexander, Marcus Bain, James Alexander, Hamilton Marr, J. Leiper Gemmill, Dr J. F. Gemmill,

William M'Millan, Rev. J. Mitchell, B.D., John Marr, jr., William Wilson, James M'Gregor, James Weir, T. Alexander, William M'Adam Sharp, and John Hyslop; Relief Committee, President, Vice-president, Secretary, Treasurer, A. G. Alexander, and James Weir. Special features of the Club—To keep up interest and friendship amongst natives and friends of Mauchline in Glasgow, and manage the Burns National Memorial and Cottage Homes, Mauchline. About 30 members.

No. 75.—KIRN Burns Club. Instituted 25th January, 1892. Federated 10th February, 1896. Place and date of meeting, Queen's Hotel, Kirn, 25th January. President, Councillor Downie, Huntly Lodge; Vice-president, Dr George Henderson, Douglas Park; *Secretary*, John Macnair, Sea View, Kirn; Treasurer, Councillor Lees, Wellmeadow; Committee, John Ferguson, Daniel M'Kellar, William Dunbar, Angus M'Allister, and Councillor Drummond.

No. 76.—BRECHIN Burns Club. Instituted January, 1894. Federated 7th March, 1896. Place and date of meeting, 26th January; other meetings as necessary. Hon. Presidents, ex-Provost George A. Scott and D. H. Edwards; President, Dean of Guild John S. Bates, St. Mary Street; Vice-president, Wm. Anderson, Solicitor, St. Mary Street; *Secretary and Treasurer*, John C. Hendry, 65 River Street, Brechin; Committee, A. J. Dakers, Ed. W. Mowatt, Wm. Davidson, John Anderson, John Crabb, W. M. Archibald, A. Bowman, and J. Waddel. Special features of Club—Annual competition amongst public schools for part singing of Scottish songs for Silver Challenge Shield, value £30.

No. 77.—PAISLEY Tannahill Gleniffer Burns Club. Instituted 1892. Federated 1896. *Secretary*, C. Jayo Gregg, *Herald* Office, 3 County Place, Paisley.

No. 78.—GLASGOW Ardgowan Burns Club. Instituted 1893. Federated 1896. *Secretary*, John Fairley, 160 Cathcart Street, Kingston, Glasgow.

No. 79.—CORSTORPHINE Burns Club. Instituted 1887. Federated 1896. Place and date of meeting, Public Hall, March, November, and 25th January, at 8 p.m. President, John Wallace, Foxville; Vice-president, John Dunlop, Whitehouse Terrace; *Secretary*, Wm. R. Murray, Inglewood, Corstorphine; Bard, James Scott; Committee of 8 members. Special features of Club—Two quarterly meetings, paper read, and afterwards social, Burns songs, &c.; anniversary dinner, 25th January.

No. 80.—DUNOON Cowal Burns Club. Instituted 1896. Federated 1896. *Secretary*, Walter Grieve, James Place, Dunoon.

No. 81.—CARSTAIRS Junction Burns Club. Instituted 1896. Federated 1896. Place of meeting, Carstairs Junction Hotel. President, Andrew P. Gray, Carstairs Junction Hotel; *Secretary*, William Neill, Burnside Cottages, Carstairs Junction; Treasurer, James Shaw, Monteith Row.

No. 82.—ARBROATH Burns Club. Instituted 1888. Federated 1896. *Secretary*, Harry Lorimer, Solicitor, 25 Market Place, Arbroath.

No. 83.—GLASGOW Co-operative Burns Club. Instituted 1896. Federated 1896. Place and date of meeting, M'Culloch's Restaurant, Argyle Street, Glasgow, first Saturday of month (October-May), 7.30 p.m. President, Thomas Paton, 34 Dalmarnock Road; Vice-president, James Lucas, M.A., 10 Huntly Terrace, Shettleston; *Secretary*, Hamilton Kelly, 22 Ardenlea Street, Glasgow, E.; Treasurer, J. M. Brown; Committee, Malcolm Neil, Robert Fraser, J. Jeffrey Hunter, Thos. Miller, Jas. Ross, Archibald Orr, Archibald Norval, John Reid, and J. Wilkie. Special features of Club—At each meeting a paper on Burns or other literary subject is given by competent lecturers.

No. 84—ABINGTON Burns Club. Federated 1896. *Secretary*, Robert Colthart, Arbory Villa, Abington.

No. 85.—DUNFERMLINE United Burns Club. Instituted 1812. Federated 10th November, 1896. Hon. Presidents, Sir James Sivewright, K.C.M.G., of Tulleallan; John M'Kane, Tonopah, Nevada, U.S.A.; Hon. Vice-president, J. C. Craig, Dunfermline; President, Dean of Guild Stewart, Headwell, Dunfermline; Vice-president, B. D. Imrie, Abbey Park Place, Dunfermline; *Secretary*, P. Paterson, 9 High Street, Dunfermline. Committee T. Don, W. Black, R. Taylor, L. A. Park, Andrew Wilkie, J. K. Munro.

No. 86.—CUMNOCK Winsome Willie Burns Club. Federated 1896. *Secretary*, Hugh Brown, Cumnock.

No. 87.—CAMPSIE Burns Club. Instituted 1890. Federated 1896. Place and date of meeting, Lennox Arms Hotel, Lennoxtown, last Saturday of each month, at 7.30 p.m. President, Peter Kincaid, Main Street, Lennoxtown; Vice-president, William M'Kay, Crosshill, Lennoxtown; *Secretary*, Robert W. Robertson, Main Street, Lennoxtown; Committee, A. Aitken, D. M'Lean, J. Stewart, J. Blakely, W. M'Donald, J. M'Laughlin, T. Whyte, J. Kincaid, J. Manson, H. Eadie, and J. M'Lean. Special features of Club—To encourage the cultivation of a better knowledge of the Poet and his works, and the promotion of friendly and social intercourse amongst the members and friends.

No. 88.—GLASGOW Caledonian Burns Club. Instituted October, 1896. Federated 2nd March, 1897. Place and date of meeting, 20 Caledonia Road, S.S., alternate Tuesdays during session. President, John M'Garry, sen., 115 Ledard Road, Langside; Vice-president, William Fleming, 154 Hospital Street, S.S.; *Secretary*, John Muirhead, 338 Duke Street, Dennistoun; Treasurer, George Philips, 389 Crown Street, S.S.

No. 89.—SUNDERLAND Burns Club. Instituted January, 1897. Federated April, 1897. Place and date of meeting, Palatine Hotel, first and third Wednesdays October to March, first Wednesday April, May,

and September, at 8 p.m. President, A. W. Semple, 46 Colchester Terrace: Vice-president, W. H. Turner, Mossgiel, 9 The Oaks; *Secretary*, M. Neilson, 133 Roker Avenue, Sunderland; Treasurer, M. MacLennan; Librarian, G. Mackay; Piper, G. Murray; Committee, R. Archibold, J. F. Crooks, D. Condie, J. Donald, and W. P. Eastwood. 63 members. Special features of Club—Reading of papers, lectures, annual Scottish concert, anniversary celebration, and the social and intellectual well being of Scotchmen generally in and around Sunderland. The annual meeting of the Burns Federation will be held here in September, 1907.

No. 90.—GARELOCHHEAD Burns Club. Instituted 1895. Federated 1897. *Secretary*, John Currie, Station House, Garelochhead.

No. 91.—SHETTLESTON Burns Club. Instituted 25th January, 1897. Federated 18th August, 1897. Place of meeting, 106 Eastmuir Street, Shettleston, monthly. President, Alex. Watt, 6 Woodend Place, Shettleston; Vice-president, William M'Lennan, Cluny Cottage, Shettleston; *Secretary*, Robert G. Chrystal, 221 Westmuir Street, Parkhead; Treasurer, D. Templeton, 1 Woodend Place, Shettleston.

No. 92.—KILBOWIE Jolly Beggars Burns Club. Instituted 10th August, 1897. Federated 26th August, 1897. Place of meeting, T. F. Ross's, Glasgow Road, Clydebank; Hon. President, Dr J. S. Robertson; President, Alex. M'Donald, Gordon Villa, Montrose Street, Kilbowie; Vice-president, William Paterson, 2 Livingstone Street, Clydebank; *Secretary*, Leonard Trew, 38 Second Avenue, Kilbowie; Treasurer, J. Seright; Committee, Wm. Allan (chairman), D. M'William, D. Clark, J. Dickson, and T. M'Kenzie. Special feature of Club—The study of Burns's works and other Scottish literature.

No. 93.—CLYDEBANK Burns Club. Federated 1897.

No. 94.—UPHALL Tam o' Shanter Burns Club. *Secretary*, Walter Crawford, Dechmont, Uphall.

No. 95.—BOLTON Burns Club. Instituted 6th September, 1881. Federated 1897. Place of meeting, Swan Hotel, Bolton. President, R. H. Swindlehurst, Wyresdale House, Chorley Old Road; Vice-president and *Secretary*, Charles H. Mallison, Oaklands, Seymour Road; Committee, J. Watson, P. Halliday, G. Guthrie, J. Boyd, J. Graham, A. Graham, G. P. Robertson, T. Laidlaw, G. Begg, C. M'Nab, C. Holgate, W. Rothwell, J. Candlish, and F. Dykes.

No. 96.—JEDBURGH Burns Club. Instituted February 1869. Federated 13th November, 1897. Place and date of meeting, Royal Hotel, Jedburgh, 9th November, 1906, at 8 p.m. President, Dean of Guild Oliver; Vice-president, Andrew Oliver, Abbey Bridge End; *Secretary*, Peter Telfer, 58 Castlegate, Jedburgh; Committee, Jas. Waugh, J. Wight, Jas. Cree, R. Halliday, R. Wright, Geo. Aitken, J. K. Young, Geo. Pringle, and Bailie Smail.

No. 97.—KILMARNOCK Bellfield Burns Club. Instituted 1895. Federated 1898. Place and date of meeting, Bellfield Tavern, Welbeck Street, first Friday of the month, at 8 o'clock. President, James Carson, 35 Glebe Road; Vice-president, Daniel Donnelly, 42 Glebe Road; *Secretary*, Thomas Neilson, 24 Robertson Place, Kilmarnock; Treasurer, Boyd Murray; Committee, J. Neilson, W. Brown, J. Hutchison, J. Harkness, and T. Hamilton. Special features of Club—Study of Burns literature, and excursions to places associated with the life and writings of Burns.

No. 98—LANARK Burns Club. Federated 1898. *Secretary*, Robert M'Kean, Commercial Bank House, Lanark.

No. 99.—GLASGOW Barlinnie Burns Club. Federated 1898. *Secretary*, J. Stewart, Officers' Quarters, Barlinnie.

No. 100.—HAMILTON Mossgiel Burns Club. Instituted 1892. Federated 4th April, 1898. Place and date of meeting, Royal Hotel, first Tuesday of every month, at 8.15. President, Thomas Brown, Maryfield; Vice-president, Archibald Clark, Quarry Street; *Secretary*, Wm. Hindshaw, 14 Regent Street, Hamilton; Treasurer, Wm. Hamilton; Committee, John Campbell, J. D. Lightbody, James Paterson, Wm. Maxwell, Wm. Watson, Wm. Stevenson, and John Thomson. Special features of Club—Essays and discussions on Burns's works, and special course of lectures during winter months. Members, 50 (limited).

No. 101.—MOTHERWELL Workmen's Burns Club. Federated 1898. *Secretary*, John King, 128 Muir Street, Motherwell.

No. 102.—CARLISLE Border Burns Club. Federated 1898. *Secretary*, Andrew Rafell, 36 London Road, Carlisle.

No. 103.—COALBURN Burns Club. Federated 1898. *Secretary*, John Woodburn, Coalburn Inn, Coalburn.

No. 104.—DUMFRIES Oak Burns Club. Federated 1898. *Secretary*, Thomas Haining, jun., 26 Swan's Vennel, Dumfries.

No. 105.—RUTHERGLEN Cronie Burns Club. Instituted 1896. Federated 1898. Place and date of meeting, Burnhill Rest, first Friday of every month. President, Wm. Stewart, 24 Westmuir Place, Rutherglen; Vice-president, Alex. Johnstone, 1 Union Place, Rutherglen; *Secretary*, David M'Quaker, 816 Rutherglen Road, S.S., Glasgow.

No. 106.—BROXBURN Rosebery Burns Club. Federated 1898. *Secretary*, Joseph Millar, Ashfield Buildings, Uphall.

No. 107.—GLASGOW Hutchesontown Burns Club. Federated 1898.

No. 108.—EAST CALDER and District Jolly Beggars Burns Club. Federated 1899. *Secretary*, Samuel Hislop, Mid Calder.

No. 109.—GLASGOW Caledonia Burns Club. Instituted September, 1898. Federated 24th March, 1899. Place and date of meeting, 1 Cathcart Street, last Friday of month, at 8 p.m., October till April

inclusive. President, James Mearchent, 136 Govan Street, South Side; Vice-president, John M'Lennan, 42 Caledonia Road, South Side; *Secretary*, William Galloway, 77 Preston Street, Govanhill; Treasurer, William Burns; Committee—Wm. Duff, J. G. Alexander, T. H. Hutton, J. Dunn, and D. Brown. A special feature of the Club is to foster an intimate acquaintance with the works of Burns.

No. 110.—CAMBUSLANG Burns Club. Instituted October, 1850. Federated October, 1898. Place and date of meeting, Borgie Rest, Cambuslang, quarterly. President, Jas. Robertson, Kupescot, Monkcastle Drive; Vice-president, Jas. Cameron, Bain Street; *Secretary and Treasurer*, Wm. Muir, 14 Lilybank Buildings, Cambuslang. Study of Burns literature and social intercourse.

No. 111.—SOUTH EDINBURGH Burns Club. Instituted 1879. Federated 27th July, 1899. Place and date of meeting, Melville Hotel, Nicholson Street, Edinburgh; Nov. 9th, Dec. 21st, Jan. 10th, 25th, Feb. 14th, March 15th, April 20th, at 8 p.m. President, James Wallace Gault, 8 Blackwood Crescent; Vice-president, Chas. E. Hobbs, 41 Royal Park Terrace; *Secretary*, John S. T. Walker, 1 Summerbank, Edinburgh; Treasurer, David P. M'Nair; Committee, Wm. Cameron, Geo. Brander, W. C. Robertson, Wm. Neave, and J. Ord Hume. Special features of the Club—Monthly musical evenings, at which the following gentlemen have kindly consented to deliver short addresses:—Will. C. Smith, K.C.; John G. Spens, advocate; Alex. M. Hamilton, advocate; R. Scott Brown, advocate; and Capt. J. Douglas Walker, D.S.O., "Black Watch."

No. 112.—DUMFRIES Burns Howff Club. Instituted 1889. Federated August, 1899. Place and date of meeting, Globe Hotel, first Wednesday every month, at 8.30 p.m. Hon. President, John Houston, High Street; President, Charles Bertram, Beaconsfield Cottage; Vice-president, John Dickson, Balmoral Road; *Secretary*, Jno. Connor, 61 St. Michael Street, Dumfries; Treasurer, J. Maxwell; Auditors, J. Reid and J. W. Howat; Committee, T. Craig, T. Laidlaw, A. M'Meeking, R. J. Elliott, J. Jackson, A. M'Kay, T. Beattie, F. Burdett, and A. Bryden.

No. 113.—VALE OF LEVEN Glencairn Burns Club. Instituted 1897. Federated 1899. Place and date of meeting, Albert Hotel, Alexandria, last Saturday of each month, at 7.30. Hon. president, William White, 44 Bridge Street, Alexandria; President, James White, 118 Bank Street, Alexandria; Vice-president, Alexander Campbell, Hillbank, Bonhill; *Secretary*, Daniel Macmillan, 38 Wilson Street, Alexandria; Treasurer, William Smith, 263 Main Street, Bonhill; Committee, Daniel M'Innes, Thomas Peters, James M'Innes, and John Galbraith. Special features of Club—Celebration of 25th January, summer outing, and occasionally short papers read by members.

No. 114.—BRODICK Burns Club. Instituted 1899. Federated 1900 *Secretary*, John S. Currie, Brodick.

No. 115.—KIPPEN and District Burns Club. Instituted 21st July, 1896. Federated 20th January, 1900. Place and date of meeting, Gillespie Memorial Hall—Annual Meeting, October. Hon. President, John Monteath, J.P., Wright Park, Kippen Station; President, Robert Jackson, Boquhan Mains, Kippen Station, by Stirling; Vice-president, Andrew Main, Strewiebank, Kippen Station, by Stirling; *Secretary*, Samuel Thomson, Pointend, Kippen, by Stirling; Treasurer, Thomas Syme, Strathview; Committee, Archibald M'Diarmid, Peter Watson, George M'Queen, John M'Lean, David Young, Peter M'Cowan, David M'Gregor, Thomas Inglis, Archibald Gray, Robert Leckie, James M'Ewen, and Andrew M'Kinlay. Special features of Club—To promote a knowledge of the life and works of Burns, and establish a fund for the cultivation and learning the works of Burns and Scottish literature among our school children, and having competitions in which handsome prizes are given.

No. 116.—GREENLOANING Burns Club. Instituted 1889. Federated 1900. Place and date of meeting, Greenloaning Inn, 25th January, at 7.30 p.m. President, Thomas Stewart, The Braes, Greenloaning, Braco; Vice-president, Francis Sands, Greenloaning, Braco; *Secretary*, James Bayne, Kinbuck, Dunblane; Committee, J. M'Laren, W. Blair, J. Stirling, J. Shearer, G. Robertson, and J. M'Naughton.

No 117.—GLASGOW Southern Burns Club. Instituted 1899. Federated 1900. *Secretary*, John M'Gillivray, 168 Mathieson Street, Glasgow.

No. 118.—GLASGOW Albany Burns Club. Instituted 1900. Federated 1900. Place and date of meeting, Trades Hall (White & Smith's), 89 Glassford Street, first Wednesday in each month from October till March, at 7.30 p.m. Hon. President, Robert Goodall, 28 Grafton Street; Honorary Members, Professor Glaister, Rev. David Dickie, Geo. Neilson, LL D., Wm. Wallace, LL.D., Chas. C. Dougal, M.A. Dollar; President, Thos. Kennedy, Dalblair, Pollokshields; Vice-presidents, John Brown, Hillend Gardens, 166 Hyndland Road, and Ninian Macwhannell, 58 West Regent Street; *Secretary*, John Drennan, 12 Annette Street, Crosshill, Glasgow, Treasurer, Alex. Gray, 67 Great Hamilton Street; Directors, John Wood, Peter Craik, Arch. Norval, James Raeside, John Grant, and R. D. Donaldson; Past Presidents, Robert Goodall, J. Wilson Bain, and James Taylor. Special features of Club—Lectures and harmony.

No. 119.—BONHILL Burns Club. Instituted 1900. Federated 1900. Place and date of meeting, Bonhill Tavern, Bonhill, first Saturday of every month. President, Malcolm M'Naught, 44 Dillichip Terrace; Vice-president, Donald Campbell, 447 Main Street; *Secretary*, John F. Eadie, 9 Dillichip Terrace, Bonhill.

No. 120.—BRISTOL Caledonian Society.—Instituted 1820. Federated 1900. Annual meeting in October. President, James M'Murtrie, Waldegrave, 5 Belvedere Road, Durdham Park ; *Secretary and Treasurer*, John Bennet, 25 Bridge Street, Bristol.

No. 121.—HAMILTON Junior Burns Club. Instituted September, 1886. Federated April, 1901. Place and date of meeting, Robert Bell's, Union Street, Hamilton, November 5th, at 8 p.m. President, John Millar, Regent Street, Hamilton ; Vice-president, Robert Brown, 72 Ladywell, Motherwell ; *Secretary*, Wm. Wilson, 27 Duke Street, Hamilton ; Treasurer, John Stewart ; Minute Secretary, A. Thomson ; Committee, J. M'Ewan, J. Welsh, and J. Crawford ; Steward, J. Gourlay. 30 members. Special features of Club—Reading of essays on various subjects, concerts, competitions, summer rambles, and social evenings.

No 122.—DARNCONNER Airds Moss Burns Club. Instituted 1901. Federated 1901. Place and date of meeting, Sorn, 25th January, at 8 p.m. President, Hugh Sloan, 71 Walker Row, Auchinleck ; Vice-president, Andrew Neil, 90 Darnconner ; *Secretary*, Andrew Stevenson, Glenlogan, Sorn, Mauchline.

No. 123.—AUCHINLECK Boswell Burns Club. Instituted January 26th, 1901. Federated December 10th, 1901. Place and date of meeting, Boswell Arms, last Saturday in every month, at 7 p.m. President, Isaac Dixon, Coal Road, Auchinleck ; Vice-president, Wm. Hall, 17 High House Row, Auchinleck ; *Secretary*, William Fleming, Northalbion Cottage, Auchinleck, Ayrshire ; Committee, Neillie Brogan, James Muir, Alex. Gibson, Wm. Macane, and Wm. Jamieson. Features—Celebration of the birth of Burns, and also Hallowe'en.

No. 124.—EDINBURGH Ninety Burns Club. Instituted 1890. Federated 1902. Place and date of meeting, Royal Hotel, 25th January. President, L. S. Blanche, 2 Shandon Place ; Vice-president, T. M. Sleigh, 151 Bruntsfield Place ; *Secretary*, R. D. Grant M'Laren, 12 Mayfield Road, Edinburgh ; Committee, Stephen Smith, Thomas Agnew, D. S. Douglas, J. Munro, and R. Burns Brown.

No. 125.—BLACKBURN-ON-ALMOND Rabbie Burns Club. Instituted 1900. Federated 1902 Place and date of meeting, Almond Inn, first Thursday of month from October to April. President, James Samson, East End, Blackburn, by Bathgate ; Vice-president, Alexander Gardiner, Knowehead, Blackburn, by Bathgate ; *Secretary*, James Middleton, East Whitburn, Linlithgowshire ; Treasurer, Joseph Fleming ; Committee, Thomas Gibson, David Fleming, Alex. Cummings, Smith Tennant, and George Douglas. Special features of Club—Annual supper on 25th January ; annual social last Friday in March, with a singing and reciting competition on Burns's works for school children.

No. 126.—FALKIRK Burns Club. Instituted 1866. Federated 1902. President, Major F. D. Ferguson, Dunrowan; Vice-presidents, Dr D. Mitchell, Dunoran, and Sheriff Moffatt, Arnotdale; *Secretary*, H. B. Watson, Broompark, Falkirk; Treasurer, Bailie R. Whyte, J.P., Bank of Scotland House; Committee, Provost Christie, J.P., Treasurer Lochhead, J.P., F. Johnston, Thomas Middleton, and D. P. Black. Special features of Club—Annual dinner, January 25th; half-yearly literary meetings, open to lady friends, April and October; and annual outing in July.

No. 127.—COWDENBEATH Haggis Burns Club. Instituted 1902. Federated 1902. *Secretary*, Alexander Smith, Foulford Arms, Cowdenbeath.

No. 128.—COWDENBEATH Glencairn Burns Club. Instituted 1898. Federated May 14th, 1903. Place and date of meeting, Raith Arms every other Thursday, at 7 p.m. President, William Breingan, Raith Arms; Vice-president, Duncan Beaton, 55 Bridge Street; *Secretary*, David Walls, 44 Landale Terrace, Cowdenbeath; Committee, Alex. Bonthrone, Robert Paterson, Thomas Ferguson, and James Murray. Special features of Club—To celebrate Hallowe'en and 25th January.

No. 129.—GLASGOW Gorbals Burns Club. Instituted 1902. Federated 11th June, 1903. President, John Grimmand, 95 Calder Street, Crosshill; Vice-president, Councillor John Mathieson, 68 Pollok Street, Pollokshaws; *Secretary*, Andrew Aitken, Solicitor, 147 Bath Street, Glasgow; Treasurer, James M. Balfour. Special features of Club—To foster and encourage a knowledge of the works of our National Bard, and the noble aspirations therein contained concerning the universal brotherhood of man.

No. 130.—ROW Burns Club. Instituted 6th February, 1902. Federated 1903. Place and date of meeting, Colquhoun Arms, January, June, and October, at 8 p.m. President, F. C. Buchanan, J.P., Clarinish Row, Dumbartonshire; Vice-presidents, Major John M'Farlane, 1 West Clyde Street, Helensburgh; N. M. M'Leod, Fiunary, Shandon, Dumbartonshire; and Capt. G. S. Deverell, R.N., C.J.I. Ship Empress, Row; *Secretary*, R. Sloan, Greenside Cottage, Row; Treasurer, G. Walker, Laggray Lodge, Row. Special features of Club—Social intercourse among its members.

No. 131.—NOTTINGHAM Scottish Association. Instituted October, 1902. Federated November, 1903. Place and date of meeting, Room 75 Mechanics' Institution, second and fourth Tuesdays of each month from October to April, at 7.30 p.m. President, W. R. Hamilton, Armitage Chambers, Victoria Street; Vice-presidents, N. C. Stewart, 8 Newstead Grove, and D. Macgregor, 16 Musters Road, West Bridgford; *Secretaries*, J. Chapman, Hollywood, Wilford, Notts, and J. G. Simpson, Milner Road, Sherwood, Nottingham; Treasurer, G. E. Bain, Capital and Counties Bank, Market Place; Council, A. Crawford, A. M. Campbell, J. Currie, J. Hunter,

W. C. Innes, W. H. Lane, G. A. Mitchell, J. M'Meeking, D. Macadie, Dr Millar, E. Merson, J. M. Stewart, A. E. Smith, and Dr Watson; Auditors, R. Burns, C.A., and A. M'Gougan. Special features of club—To promote social and intellectual intercourse among the members.

No. 132.—RICCARTON Kirkstyle Burns Club. Instituted February, 1904. Federated 16th November, 1904. Place and date of meeting, Railway Bar, last Friday of every month, at 8 p.m. President, Thomas Brown, 13 Hurlford Road; Vice-president, William Lumsden, 16 James Little Street, Kilmarnock; *Secretary*, Arch. Young, 88 Campbell Street, Riccarton; member of committee, Alex. Lamb, 9 Hurlford Road.

No. 133.—NEWARTHILL Burns Club. Instituted 26th September, 1903. Federated 28th March, 1904. Place and date of meeting, Miss Janet Wyper's, last Saturday every month, at 7 p.m. President, John Henshaw, Main Street; Vice-president, Robert Henderson, Muir's Land, Main Street; *Secretary*, John Sneddon, Wyper's Land, North Road, Newarthill, Motherwell; Treasurer, George Cook, Young's Place; Committee, J. Lafferty, J. Millar, D. Sneddon, and T. Crombie. Special features of Club—Annual competition with school children in singing and reciting the works of the Poet.

No. 134.—DUNTOCHER "The Heron" Burns Club. Instituted 18th November, 1897. Federated 7th April, 1904. President, James Scobie, Main Street; Vice-president, William Greer, Main Street; *Secretary*, R. R. Chalmers, Main Street, Duntocher; Committee, John Morrison, John Sommerville, J. L. Myers, Alexander Selkirk, John M'Coll, and Moses Forsyth. Special features of the Club—To promote social intercourse amongst its member by means of songs, recitations, readings, lectures, &c., those of our National Bard to have a prominent place.

No. 135.—PARTICK Western Burns Club. Instituted 17th November, 1903. Federated 1904. President, Donald Macneish, 5 Elmwood Gardens, Jordanhill; Vice-president, J. D. Smith, 11 Inverclyde Terrace, Partick; *Secretary*, John E. Shaw, 3 Ardery Street, Partick.

No. 136.—HAMILTON Royal Oak Burns Club. Instituted 1898. Federated 6th June, 1904. Place and date of meeting, Royal Oak Hall, Lowwaters, Hamilton. President, James Shepherd, 2 Moore Street, Cadzow; Vice-president, Andrew Orr, 172 Eddlewood; *Secretary*, Robert Brownlie, 7 Downie Street, Lowwaters, Hamilton; Treasurer, A. H. Braidwood, Royal Oak, Lowwaters; Committee, James Simpson, William Ross, James Clark, Donald Campbell, and James Wilson.

No. 137.—IPSWICH Burns Club. Instituted 1902. Federated 1904. Dates of meetings, first Wednesday in September, St. Andrew's Day, Burns's anniversary, first Wednesday in March. President, Dr

Hossack, Berners Street; Vice-presidents, A. Gibb, J.P., J. Pratt, Dr Gibb, and Lewis Moir; *Secretary*, Peter Stewart, South Lodge, Gibbon's Street, Ipswich; Hon. Piper, W. D. M'Laren.

No. 138.—CLELAND Burns Club. Instituted 19th October, 1904. Federated 22nd November, 1904. Place and date of meeting, Dalrymple House, Cleland, second Wednesday of each month, at 7.30 p.m. President, Peter Strachan, P.O. Buildings; Vice-president, Andrew Thomson, Gray's Land, Cleland; *Secretary*, Robert M'Millan, Hornshill, Cleland; Treasurer, Thos. Lithgow, Langtyres Cottage; Committee, John Marshall and George Hendry.

No. 139.—GLASGOW National Burns Club, Ltd. Instituted 1904; Federated 1904. Place and date of meeting, 93 Douglas Street; Club Rooms open every day, except Sunday. President, James Jeffrey Hunter, Writer, 109 Bath Street; Vice-president, James Ballantyne, 21 Rose Street, Garnethill; *Secretary and Treasurer*, Joseph Martin, Solicitor, 163 West George Street. Special features of Club—The promotion of the study of Burns's works and Scottish literature generally; the collection of books, prints, and pamphlets connected therewith; and social intercourse and rational recreation.

No. 140.—POLLOKSHAWS Burns Club. Instituted 1865. Federated 1905. Place and date of meeting, Town Hall, last Friday each month. President, Ex-Provost R. Wilson, J.P., Dallsalloch, Pollokshields; Vice-president, Andrew M'Callum of Pollokshaws; *Secretary*, Geo. C. Mearns, Auldfield Place, Pollokshaws; Treasurer, Ex-Bailie Robert Gardiner, Main Street, Pollokshaws. Special features of Club—To endeavour, by subscriptions, donations, and such other means as may be available, to establish a fund which shall be used for the encouragement of the study of Scottish literature amongst the inhabitants of Pollokshaws and district, or for any special educational purpose—purely Scottish—which shall be approved of by the Club at any annual or special meeting; to hold yearly a children's competition in the singing and recitation of previously selected portions of the Poet's works, and give medals and prizes for excellence therein to the successful competitors.

No. 141.—STONEHOUSE Burns Club. Instituted 1900. Federated 6th February, 1905. Place and date of meeting, Buckhead Inn, second Saturday each month. President, John Collison, Lockhart Street; Vice-president, William Whitelaw, Townhead Street; *Secretary*, James Stewart, 73 New Street, Stonehouse; Treasurer, James Whitelaw, Alexandra Terrace.

No. 142.—BONNYBRIDGE Burns Club. Instituted January 10th, 1905. Federated February 22nd, 1905. Place and date of meeting, Public Hall, Bonnybridge, January 25th. Hon. Presidents, Mrs Barbara Scott Ure, Mrs Margaret Helen Ferguson (grand-niece of Allan Cunningham), Mrs Mary M. Johnston, Mrs E. G. Lochhead, Mrs Georgina Gordon White, Mrs Jane Cameron Christie, Miss Janet Margaret Watson, George Ure, J.P., D.L.,

George R. Ure, J.P., and Walter Towers; President, William M'Gruther, Victoria Cottage; Vice-presidents, John Clerk, Knowhead Cottage, Dennyloanhead, and James Blair, Dartlea Cottage, Greenhill; *Secretary*, John Towers, Allanhill Cottage, Bonnybridge; Treasurer, Miss Mary Smith, Main Street; Committee, Mrs Mary M'Duff Ferguson, Miss Jeanie M'Phie, James Paterson, J. C. Ferguson, William Brown, A. F. Anderson, John M'Laren, John Irvine, Matthew M'Neilage, and Wm. Pollock. Special features of Club—The admission of ladies as members; no intoxicating liquors used at any meeting; two literary and musical evenings, one in March, the other in November, to which members may invite friends; celebration of the Poet's birth in January.

No. 143.—AIRDRIE Gateside Burns Club. Instituted November 6th, 1904. Federated May 1st, 1905. Place and date of meeting, Star Hotel, when necessary, at 8 p.m. President, Robert Ferguson, South Bridge Street; Vice-president, Wm. Gardner, Craigallan Place; *Secretary*, Alex. W. Ritchie, Laurel Bank, Queen Victoria Street, Airdrie; Treasurer, Jas. Scott, 36 Clark Street; Committee, A. Gardner, Wm. Eglinton, jr., A. Dempster, Robt. Henderson, A. Hunter, and John Ferguson. Special features of Club—Promotion of study of Burns literature.

No. 144.—LARBERT and STENHOUSEMUIR Temperance Burns Club. Instituted 1904. Federated 26th July, 1905. President, John Gill Muse, The Studio, Larbert; Vice-president, John Ure, Castlehill Cottage, Larbert; *Secretary*, John Richardson, Hunslea, South Bromage, Larbert.

No. 145.—GLASGOW Central Burns Club and Literary Society, Ltd. Instituted April, 1905. Federated 18th August, 1905. Place and date of meeting: Club Rooms, 3 Dundas Street, City—Committee meetings every fortnight (Tuesdays); Smoking Concert and Lecture alternately on Fridays, assisted by professionals from the various places of entertainment in city, at 8.30 p.m. Hon. President, J. Jeffrey Hunter, 109 Bath Street; President, John Wilson Watt, 54 Shuttle Street; *Secretary*, John Kinney, 166 Main Street, Glasgow, S.S.; Directors, Ed. Kelly, John Watt, H. Bailey, L. Lyons, and W. D. M'Laren (Hon. Secretary). Special features of Club—To promote the study of Burns's works and other literary and social subjects.

No. 146.—DUBLIN Burns Club. Federated 18th October, 1905. President, Thomas A. Stoddart, *Irish Times* Office, Dublin; Vice-president, Andrew Dawson, T.C., 35 Hollybank Road, Drumconder, Dublin; *Secretary*, John Farquhar, 5 Park View Avenue, Harold's Cross, Dublin.

No. 147.—STONEHOUSE Haggis Burns Club.—Federated 28th October, 1905. President, W. G. Sneddon, Lockhart Place, Stonehouse; Vice-president, G. Louden; *Secretary*, R. Whitelaw, 22 Camnethan Street, Stonehouse.

No. 148.—GREENOCK Cronies Burns Club. Instituted January, 1899. Federated 9th November, 1905. Place and date of meeting. Queen's Rooms, Hamilton Street, first Wednesday in month, September to April. President, Hugh Mathieson, 3 Chalmers Street, Port-Glasgow ; Vice-president, Archibald Dunlop, 40 Ann Street, Greenock ; *Secretary*, Hugh Cammack, 37 Lynedoch Street, Greenock.

No. 149.—ELGIN Burns Club. Instituted 1899 Federated 15th Dec., 1905. President, Rev. W. Hamilton, The Manse, Alves ; Vice-president, John Wittet, Architect, Elgin ; *Secretary*, John Foster, Sheriff Clerk, Elgin ; Treasurer, John B. Mair, Chief Constable of Elginshire ; Committee, A. Smith, W. Law, A. Gillan, T. R. Mackenzie, and T. P. Fraser.

No. 150—KILMARNOCK Jolly Beggars Burns Club. Instituted Jan., 1905. Federated Dec., 1905. Place and date of meeting, The Wee Thack, Grange Street, last Wednesday every month, at 7.45. Hon. presidents, Andrew Sinclair, Alex. Kerr, and Archie Laird. President, Robert Orr, 10 Bentinck Street ; Vice-president, Ben Smith, High Fenwick ; *Secretary*, Robert J. Green, 58 Park Street. Special features of Club—The cultivation of a better knowledge of the life and works of the Bard and the study of Scottish literature by reading of papers, etc.

No. 151. —OLD KILPATRICK Burns Club. Instituted Jan., 1903. Federated Jan. 20th, 1906. Place of meeting, United Free Church Hall. President, James Howard, Mitchell Terrace ; Vice-president, Thomas Struthers, Station House ; *Secretary*, Robert Smith, Gateside, Old Kilpatrick ; Treasurer, Joseph Muir, Mitchell Terrace ; Committee, John Brock, Robert Newlands, William M'Pherson, Alex. Smith, Thos. Kempton, Jas. M'Carlie, Andrew Bell, and Alex. M'Nee. Special features of Club—The study of Burns's works (life, poems, and songs) and lectures during the winter months (about four in all).

No. 152 —HAMILTON Burns Club. Instituted 1877. Federated 1906. Place and date of meeting, Commercial Hotel, monthly, at 8 p.m. President, W. Martin Kay, Craigton Lodge ; Vice-president, Alexander Patrick Smith, Old Auchingramont ; *Secretary*, Peter Anderson, Rowanlea, Hamilton ; Treasurer, David N. Cross, 108 Almada Street ; Directors, Messrs James Lochhead, James Moffat, Alex. Wilkie, Matthew Campbell, Alex. Caird, and James Steele ; Auditor, Thomas Mitchell. Special features of Club—To encourage the study of Scottish literature in general, and the works of the Poet in particular ; short essays are read during winter ; prizes are given by Club to each of the schools in the burgh upon an examination in Scottish literature.

No. 153.—GLASGOW "The Scottish" Burns Club. Instituted 25th Jany., 1904. Federated 27th February, 1906. Place and date of meeting, City Commercial Restaurant, 60 Union Street, Glasgow, first

Wednesday of each month, October to April inclusive, at 7.30 p.m. President, John K. M'Dowall, J.P., 6 Carlton Place; Vice-president, David A. Penman, 53 Waterloo Street; *Secretary*, Robert M'Callum, jun., 60 Union Street, Glasgow; Committee, Thos. Devlin (Treasurer), Joseph Graydon, Wm. B. Paterson, and Matthew Waddell. Special features of Club—Literary and social.

No. 154.—JOHANNESBURG Burns Club. Instituted 1900. Federated 23rd April, 1906. President, A. S. Raitt, M.L.C., P.O. Box 7313, Johannesburg; Vice president, Alex Forfar, Spes Bona School, Baamfontein, Johannesburg; *Secretary*, Leslie B Dalgleish, P.O. Box 2636, Johannesburg, South Africa.

No. 155.—EAST STIRLINGSHIRE Burns Club. Instituted 25th January, 1905. Federated 1st September, 1906. Place and date of meeting, Cross Roads Inn, Bainsford, Falkirk, on 3rd Saturday of every month, at 7.30 p.m. President, John Duncan Silcock, 13 Gordon Terrace, Carron Road, Falkirk; Vice-president, George Taylor, Mungal Place, Bainsford, Falkirk; *Secretary*, Alex. Glen, 12 Gordon Terrace, Carron Road, Falkirk; Committee, Arch. Morrison, Alex. Thomson, and Hugh Rowand. Special features of Club—To foster and maintain an intimate and thorough knowledge of the life and works of Burns; to celebrate the anniversary of his birth in supper, song, and sentiment, and to propagate and encourage a kind, social, and brotherly feeling one towards another.

No. 156.—NEWCASTLE and TYNESIDE Burns Club. Instituted 1864. Federated October 4th, 1906. Place and date of meeting, Continental Restaurant, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Fridays, 8.30 p.m. President, James W. Farquharson, M.B., C.M., 242 Westgate Road; Vice-president, James Arnott, 9 Eslington Terrace; *Secretary*, John Dempster, 95 Brighton Grove, Newcastle on-Tyne; Hon. Treasurer, Councillor Wm. Maxwell, 25 Eldon Square. Special features of Club—Cultivation of everything that is best in Scottish national character.

No. 157.—BAILLIESTON Caledonia Burns Club Instituted 1901. Federated October 5th, 1906. Place and date of meeting, Reid's Hall, 1st Monday of the month, at 7.30 p.m. President, Wm. Reid, 74 Main Street; Vice-president, James Adams, 68 Main Street; *Secretary*, Donald Macfarlane, 35 Main Street, Baillieston; Committee, Peter Greenshields, Chas. Paterson, James Buchanan, Thos. Waugh, George Tait, and James Russell. Special features of Club—To cherish the name of Robert Burns and foster a love for his writings, and generally to encourage a taste for Scottish literature, and to celebrate the memory of our National Bard by an annual social meeting to be held on 25th January, or as near thereto as possible.

No. 158.—DARLINGTON Burns Club. Instituted 1900. Federated 18th October, 1906. President, Philip Wood, Grammar School, Darlington; Vice-presidents, Wm. Foster, J.P., John Henderson, and John M. Galt; *Secretary*, R. M. Liddell, 46 East Mount Terrace, Darlington.

No. 159.—WALKER-ON-TYNE "Walker" Burns Club. Federated 11th November, 1906. President, J. M'Kay, Welbeck Road, West Walker; Vice-president, J. Keith and J. Crawford; *Secretary*, Hy. F. Caldwell, 23 Welbeck Road, East Walker, Newcastle; Treasurer, R. M'Rory, Eastbourne Terrace. Special features of Club—To combine Scotchmen here, and imbue them and other admirers of Burns with more knowledge of Scottish literature.

No. 160.—WHITBURN Burns Club. Instituted 23rd February, 1906. Federated Nov., 1906. Place and date of meeting, Cross Tavern, last Friday of each month, at 7.30 p.m. President, John Greig, Cross Tavern; Vice-president, Peter Peace, Blaeberry Hill Farm; *Secretary*, Allan Johnston, West Main Street, Whitburn; Treasurer, John Johnston; Bard, Jas. M'Harg; Committee, J. Youug, F. M'Gregor, J. Aitken, Wm. M'Kenzie, and Geo. Gibson. Special features of Club—To promote among the members a knowledge of Burns's life and work.

No. 161. PAISLEY Charleston Burns Club. Instituted 25th January, 1905. Federated December, 1906. Meets at 39 Stock Street as arranged. President, David Lees, 8 Janefield Place; Vice-presidents, James Hamilton, 3 Lylesland Terrace, and James Welsh, 39 Stock Street; *Secretary and Treasurer*, Robert Fleming, 88 Neilson Road, Paisley; Committee, Alex. Beaton, Joseph Howard, Robt. Kerr, W. A. Nelson, and Alex. Smith.

ANNUAL

BURNS CHRONICLE & CLUB DIRECTORY

INSTITUTED 4TH SEPTEMBER 1891.

Edited by D. McNAUGHT, Kilmaurs

No. XVII.
JANUARY, 1908.

PRICE:
ONE SHILLING & SIXPENCE.

PUBLISHED BY THE
BURNS FEDERATION,
KILMARNOCK.

PRINTED BY
J.M.MUNRO, Limited,
82, MITCHELL ST., GLASGOW.

(Rights reserved.)

CONTENTS.

	Page
A Sketch of Scottish Literature from the Earliest Times *Wm. M'Ilwraith*	1
In the Nursery of the Burneses—*Edward Pinnington*	16
Hallowe'en (The work of Burns and Mayne)—*Andrew M'Callum*	24
Some of Burns's Ayr Friends—*Elizabeth W. Ingram*	32
Joseph Train, F.S.A., Scot., as a Freemason—*John S. Thomson*	42
Contemporary Views of Burns—*A. C. White*	45
The Missing Raeburn Portrait—*Editor*	60
Robert Burns (25th January, 1908)—*John Drake*	64
In Memoriam: David Murray, M.A., B.Sc., President of the Federation—*Editor*	65
The Auld Brig o' Ayr	70
Reviews	72
Peter Hill and Burns's Edinburgh Friends—*George Wilson*	74
Coila, the Muse of Burns—*George Eyre-Todd*	80
A Celebrated Beauty of last Century—*Editor*	86
Club Notes	88
Notes and Queries	96
Burns and the Paraphrases	103
Chair of Scottish History and Literature—*Editor*	116
Annual Meeting of Federation	120
List of Clubs which have subscribed for the Publishing Fund, 1906-7	125
Alphabetical List of Federated Clubs	126
Club Directory	128
Indexes of Articles and their writers in Annual Burns Chronicle (Vol. I to Vol. XVI.)	150

PREFACE.

During the last few years a good deal of interesting matter has accumulated in our hands, part of which we have incorporated in the present volume, the remainder being held over for insertion in future issues as opportunity offers.

In the present issue we have acceded to a widespread desire for a general index to facilitate reference to the articles contained in the *Chronicle* since its first publication, and we trust it will be found sufficient till a more detailed index is drawn up at some future date.

We have again to acknowledge the valuable assistance so generously accorded to us from many sources, and to thank all interested in the serial for their kindly counsel and support.

D. M'NAUGHT.

Benrig, Kilmaurs,
January 1st, 1908.

A SKETCH OF SCOTTISH LITERATURE FROM THE EARLIEST TIMES.

CHAPTER V.

EIGHTEENTH CENTURY.

INFINITELY inferior to James Boswell in literary gifts as well as in personality was Henry Mackenzie, though he occupied a sufficiently important place in the literature of the period to claim a brief notice. Indeed, if he had done nothing except to bring the Poet Burns to the notice of his countrymen through the pages of the *Lounger* in so sympathetic and graceful a manner, his name would have been perpetuated in some fashion. The article alluded to, which was published December, 1786, is much too long to quote, but it is significant that Mackenzie should have been the first writer in Scotland who pronounced Burns a genius of no ordinary rank. Henry Mackenzie was born in Edinburgh, 1745, and was the son of an Edinburgh physician. He was educated at the High School and University of Edinburgh with the view of entering the legal profession. To qualify for practice in the Court of Exchequer, he went to London in 1766, and studied the Exchequer practice. While in London, and in the course of his miscellaneous reading, he was much influenced by some of the English writers, especially the writings of Addison. Though a man of strong religious sentiment, he felt the charm of breathing in an atmosphere so much more free from theological polemics than the Edinburgh of the eighteenth century. Under this influence and this environment, he founded the *Mirror* and *Lounger*, which were practically the first periodicals of the kind in

Henry Mackenzie, 1745-1831.

Scotland. In those periodicals he imitated Addison so closely in grace and style that Sir Walter Scott, with whom he was on the most friendly terms, called him the Addison of the North. Imitation seems to have been a strong point with him, for he has not only been accused of imitating the *Spectator* group of writers, but also Sterne, Richardson, and Fielding. The undue cultivation of this faculty was not without its disadvantages to the Man of Feeling, as he was sometimes called, for it deterred him from attaining a distinction and individuality he otherwise might have gained; but, at any rate, he is to be commended for the chasteness of his literary style. His principal novel, *The Man of Feeling*, which was published anonymously in 1771, had a great vogue in its day, and there was much speculation as to its authorship. In 1777 there was published at Bath an "Elegiac Ode to the Memory of the Rev. Charles Eccles, rector of Birts, Morton, Worcestershire," who was drowned in attempting to assist a young man who was bathing in the Avon and had gone beyond his depth. Prefixed to it there is a biographical notice of this unfortunate gentleman, in which, among other things, we are told:—"His merits as a writer will live when every frail memorial that venerating friendship can raise will be buried in oblivion. Goldsmith, that child of simplicity, was his model. Most of his performances are anonymous: a proof of the modesty that ever attends on real merit. *The Pursuit after Happiness*, *The Man of Feeling*, *Julia de Roubigne*, and a sermon preached at Bath on the last General Fast, are the only publications attributed to him. Had Providence vouchsafed to have granted to him a longer existence it is more than probable he would have been a great honour to the literary world." The authorship of *The Man of Feeling* was a matter of dispute in the London newspapers for some time. It will be seen from the quotation given above how it was decided at Bath. *The Man of the World* followed *The Man of Feeling* in 1773, and *Julia de Roubigne* in 1777. None of the three can be called great works. *The Man of Feeling* is undoubtedly the best of the three, but it is seldom read to-day, and most of those who have read it have a difficulty in understanding how it

ever attained classical distinction. His other writings include some political pamphlets, lives of Dr Blacklock and John Home, besides nearly one hundred papers in the *Mirror* and *Lounger*, some of which comprise his best work from a strictly literary point of view. He also produced four plays, which were acted at Edinburgh, but they are weak and ineffective from a dramatic point of view. His novels are void of plot, and are lacking in intellectual virility; but they contain much delicate humour, and are written in an elegant style. He appears to have been a man of wide reading rather than a profound literary student, though we do know that he made excursions into German literature. The German writers who seem to have most interested him were Jessing and Schiller, but he does not appear to have been much interested in Goethe, though the lives of the two were contemporary. Mackenzie was a man of culture and refined feelings, and was amongst the first to write against slave labour in the West Indies, which he denounced with much force and eloquence.

Jean Elliott, 1727-1805.

To revert again to the poetry of the period, Jean Elliott is the name first suggested, and she must not be confounded with Mrs Cockburn, the authoress of "The Flowers o' the Forest" already mentioned, though it is just a little confusing to have two songs bearing the same title, and given to the public within little more than a decade of each other. Jean Elliott, third daughter of Sir Gilbert Elliott, second baronet of Minto, and one of the Lords of Session, was the authoress of this beautiful song, "The Flowers o' the Forest," to the same tune as the older one. The first and last lines are ancient, but the rest is by Jean Elliott, and does its authoress much credit. The subject is so homely and natural that it is not surprising that this song should have so strongly appealed to the sentiments and emotions of the peasant class, and yet the authoress lived in one of the fashionable parts of Edinburgh during the last twenty years of the eighteenth century. It is most likely, however, that her knowledge of the harvest field and the ewe-buchting was gained from the environment of Minto House, Teviotdale, which she depicts in the song with that admixture of

pawky humour and pathos which is the real charm of her version of "The Flowers o' the Forest."

John Lapraik derives his chief interest from the fact that he was the reputed author of the fine lyric entitled "When I upon thy bosom lean."* When Johnson was publishing his *Scots Musical Museum* this song was sent to him by Burns, and was so much appreciated by the Poet that he commenced a rhyming correspondence with its supposed author. Burns, who was a supreme judge of a fine air, first heard the song at a country rocking, and was greatly fascinated with it. Lapraik was confined in Ayr gaol for debt, due to the failure of the Ayr Bank, which reduced "the bauld Lapraik, the king o' hearts" (as Burns described him), from being the owner of a small farm in the neighbourhood of Muirkirk to a condition of great pecuniary embarrassment. Encouraged by the example and success of Burns, he published in 1788, at Kilmarnock, a collection of his pieces, which included the song alluded to amongst others of an inferior degree of merit.

John Lapraik, 1727-1807.

In William Falconer we have a poet whose work has been variously estimated by the critics who have ventured to notice him. Lord Byron greatly admired "The Shipwreck," especially the reference to Cape Colonna, which is said to have furnished Byron with material for the storm scene in *Don Juan*. Dr Arnold, on the other hand, says "The Shipwreck" is hardly worth quoting from, and that its versification betrays the careful student of Pope. There is just a suspicion that Dr Arnold's unqualified condemnation is due to Falconer's adoption of Pope's versification, Pope having become the pet aversion of the literary critics in Arnold's day, and while the criticisms of Arnold are usually fair and judicious, his feelings appear to run away with him when Pope is in his mind. In spite of Dr Arnold's condemnation it must be acknowledged that "The Shipwreck" contains many fine passages of descriptive power and fervid eloquence which would

William Falconer, 1734-1769.

* The song is not Lapraik's. It will be found in the *Weekly Magazine*, Oct. 14th, 1773. [Ed.]

not have dishonoured the model the author has been accused of slavishly following. Moreover, it is so true to both fact and poetry that it equally appeals to the man of letters and the experienced seaman of to-day, which is by no means an unimportant test of its merits. In sea-songs England is far in advance of her Scottish sister, but England has not produced a poet who has written a purely marine poem of equal length or importance to compare with Falconer's "Shipwreck." The author was born in Edinburgh about 1731, and was the son of a barber and wig-maker reputed for his shrewd intelligence. His two other children had the misfortune to be deaf and dumb. Of William Falconer comparatively little is known, and concerning his early education, the assumption is that it could not have been a very thorough one, for he appears to have gone to sea while he was a mere youth on board a Leith merchant ship, and was afterwards servant to a purser in the Navy. Before he attained the age of eighteen he was second mate in the *Britannia*, a vessel connected with the Levant trade which was wrecked off Cape Colonna with the loss of all the crew save three, of whom Falconer was one, and he made the disaster the theme of his popular poem. "The Shipwreck" was published in 1762, and was dedicated to the Duke of York, who procured the poet's appointment as midshipman on the *Royal George*, from which he was appointed purser on the *Glory*, a frigate of thirty-two guns. The reception of "The Shipwreck" by the general public was highly complimentary to the author, the Duke of York, to whom it was dedicated, sharing in the general admiration. No doubt the popularity of the poem was largely due to the subject, also to the interesting way the author has delineated the hardship and dangers to which the sailor portion of our population are daily exposed. As Falconer himself has said, it was his lot to be the first who

> ". . . in lamenting numbers o'er the deep,
> With conscious anguish taught the harp to weep."

Whatever may be said of the versification of "The Shipwreck," it must be acknowledged that the subject of the poem, apart

from its versification, was quite original, and it is treated in a refined and attractive manner.

In the course of the poem the nautical terms are presented to the mind of the reader with great practical skill, and show that the author was more jealous of his reputation as a sailor than he was of that of a poet. It has been alleged, on the authority of those skilled in navigation, that the rules and maxims laid down in the poem as applied to the handling of a ship in a dangerous emergency are those which are most likely to be employed by a trained mariner.

Besides "The Shipwreck," Falconer wrote several other shorter poems, the best of which is the "Fond Lover," a ballad, and his "Address to Miranda." The "Address to Miranda" is pervaded by a deep and affectionate sentiment, and may be said to be autobiographical, as it was addressed to the lady who afterwards became his wife. He also wrote a political satire, entitled "The Demagogue," which had for its object the satirising of Pitt and other political leaders of the day, the interest of which is restricted to the time it was written, but it adds nothing to his reputation as a poet, and is of little or no interest to posterity, who have their own political quarrels and differences. In 1769 Falconer published the *Marine Dictionary*, which was long considered indispensable to naval literature, and was the means of bringing its author prominently before the Admiralty Board—the result being that he was immediately appointed purser to the *Aurora* frigate, which was about to set sail for India. Before sailing for India Falconer superintended the publication of a third edition of "The Shipwreck," but it was no improvement on the two former editions; he appears to have passed it through his hands with undue haste and negligence: thus the most of the additions and alterations he made in this edition were not improvements. The *Aurora* sailed from England on the 30th of September, 1769, reaching the Cape of Good Hope on the 27th of December following. After leaving the Cape the *Aurora* was never again heard of, and the poor unfortunate author of "The Shipwreck," by a strange irony of fate, perished in a similar

catastrophe to that which had inspired his poetic muse to write the poem which first established his reputation as an author of more than ordinary merit.

As far as originality is concerned, perhaps William Julius Mickle has even less claim to it than the author of "The Shipwreck," but Mickle's translation of "Camœus Lusiad" entitles him to a fame of a more enduring character than anything Falconer achieved, inasmuch as he put a great epic within the reach of the English-speaking race in a more fascinating dress than any one had previously done. The only translation of the great Portuguese epic which had previously appeared in England was that of Richard Fanshaw, who was Cromwell's Ambassador at Lisbon, but it was a mere travesty of the original, as was shown by Musgrave, a more recent translator, compared with that of Mickle.

William Julius Mickle, 1734-1788.

William Julius Mickle was born at Langholm, in Dumfriesshire, on the 29th of September, 1734, and was the third son of the Rev. Alexander Mickle, minister of Langholm, who had previously been a dissenting minister in London, and superintended the translation of Bayle's *Dictionnaire Historique et Critique*, to which he contributed many additional and valuable notes. In its day Bayle's dictionary was historically regarded as the protest of the enlightened mind against the narrow and irrational dogmatism of the Churches. William Julius was educated at the Grammar School of Langholm, and while a mere schoolboy he manifested a keen interest in the British poets, but Spenser was his chief favourite. At this school he became proficient in several branches of education; his father, however, subsequently removed from Langholm to Edinburgh, with the view of increasing the educational facilities of his family, and his son William completed his education at the High School in that city. While at the High School he acquired a proficient knowledge of both the Latin and Greek tongues, and some acquaintance with the best writers in these languages. Some two years after the Rev. Alexander Mickle came to reside in Edinburgh, his brother-in-law, who was a brewer, died, and

in the interests of the family he spent the greater part of his fortune in the purchase of the business which was carried on in the name of his eldest son. For six years William Julius performed the functions of chief clerk in the establishment, but when he became of age the whole property of the brewery was transferred to him on condition that he should grant his father a share of the profits during his lifetime, and pay a certain sum to his brothers and sisters after the decease of his father. The young aspirant to poetic fame did not prove a successful brewer, however, and, in addition to losses in his trade due to incapacity, he became security for others for considerable sums of money, which ultimately landed him in bankruptcy. To escape arrest, with which he was threatened, he left his home and set out for London, where he arrived on the 8th of May, 1763, encouraged by the hope that some new occupation in life would soon open up for him to enable him to pay his creditors the full amount of their several claims. Almost immediately after his arrival in London, he was induced to write to Lord Lyttleton, who was considered at that time to be the most cultured man in England. Mickle received much encouragement from him, but no more substantial assistance, and this was of little value to a man on the verge of starvation. A probation of two years of disappointed hopes and increasing destitution greatly disenchanted him with the precarious character of a poet's life and literary career, consequently he was grateful for a situation as corrector of the Clarendon Press at Oxford. He could not, however, bring himself to the idea of bidding farewell to literature, and while in this situation published "Pollio," an elegy, and "The Concubine," a poem in two cantos in the manner of Spenser, which he afterwards reprinted with the title of "Syr Martyn." "Pollio," the first of the two, fell flat, but "The Concubine," like the other, was published anonymously, and while it remained so was successively ascribed to some of the most distinguished poets of the day, and went through three editions in a short time. It was followed in 1770 by *Voltaire in the Shades*, which was really a veiled

attack upon David Hume, who evidently was a favourite target for the literary men of the day to aim at, either by open or covert attack. In 1771, Mickle published the first canto of his "Camœus," which was completed four years afterwards. During the interval of translating the "Lusiad," Mickle indulged his poetic fancy in other directions. In 1772 he assisted in a collection of fugitive poetry, which was intended as a contribution to Dodsley's Collection, and to which he contributed the elegy on Mary Queen of Scots, which received the disapprobation of Lord Lyttleton, who refused to criticise any part of it, because, he alleged, "poetry should not consecrate what history must condemn." With Mary Queen of Scots he contributed "Hengist and Mey"—a ballad; he also contributed occasional pieces, both in prose and verse, to the periodical publications. The authorship of "The Mariner's Wife," usually named from its chorus "There's nae luck aboot the hoose," has been established, after much controversy, in favour of Jean Adam. In 1779 he went to Portugal as secretary to Commodore Johnstone, when he had a warm reception at Lisbon by the countrymen of Camœus, who elected him a member of the Academy. Even in view of his hard struggle with fate, such a mark of honour could not fail to compensate him for his early struggles and disappointments. The best of Mickle's original poems is his ballad of "Cumnor Hall," published in 1784 in Evans's Collection of Old Ballads, which is said to have suggested to Sir Walter Scott the groundwork of *Kenilworth*. He also wrote a play on the *Siege of Marseilles*, which David Garrick refused to bring out on the stage in spite of the entreaties of James Boswell and others, and though it had passed the critical test of Thomas Warton and John Home. The author was naturally much irritated at the obstinacy of Garrick, especially with the recollection of Lord Lyttleton's neglect to assist him to literary fame vividly before his mind, and he threatened to write a new "Dunciad," of which Garrick should be the central figure, but his friend James Boswell succeeded, after much judicious advice, in convincing him of the folly of such an attempt.

Notwithstanding the success of Mickle's translation of the "Lusiad," for which he received nearly a thousand pounds, not to speak of his other literary work, he was in straitened circumstances—not on account of extravagance or profligacy by any means, but because he paid his creditors in full who had suffered by his bankruptcy in Scotland, and he also maintained his sister. In the knowledge of this, his friends appealed to the Crown to procure him a pension as a man of letters, but their application failed, and he had to continue to rely upon his own efforts. It is alleged that Dr Lowth, at that time Bishop of London, and also distinguished for his literary tastes, offered to provide for him in the Church, but he declined the offer. Although he was extremely orthodox in his theological views, the philosophy of Voltaire and David Hume being his greatest detestation, he had the impression that a clerical life was unsuited to his disposition. Both as a man and as an author many are the tributes of praise and honour bestowed upon him by those who knew him as a man, and could judge of him as an author. For one, Southey said of him that he was a man of genius, who did not overrate the power he was conscious of possessing, and his character was without spot.

As to the comparative merits of his translation of the "Lusiad," there was much diversity of opinion amongst the literary men of his own day. It is alleged by one of Mickle's biographers that the two most violent assailants of his translation were Voltaire and Rapin.

While the assertion with regard to Voltaire is substantially correct, it is unfortunate for his veracity that Rapin was included, since he died some nine years before Mickle was born, and could not well criticise a work which did not appear in its entirety till some fifty years after Rapin's death. With regard to Voltaire's criticism of Mickle's translation, little importance can be attached, as he was not acquainted with the Portuguese language in which Camœus wrote, and his knowledge of the "Lusiad" was derived from Fanshaw's imperfect English version, as no translation had yet appeared in French. Musgrave, who published a literal

translation of the "Lusiad" upwards of seventy years after that of Mickle, states that though Mickle "was occasionally guilty of omissions and interpolations in poetical elegance, he did not presume to enter into competition with him." Indeed, as a translation, Mickle's "Lusiad" in force and eloquence was regarded as second only to Pope's translation of the "Iliad," and it now rivals it in popularity. Although Mickle employed the versification of Pope, it is more direct and less ornate, giving a fairly good idea of the original, and at the same time is more free from the artificial striving for the harmony of numbers so apparent in Pope's "Iliad."

Dr Alex. Geddes, 1737-1802.

Dr Alexander Geddes, with whom this chapter concludes, was the very antithesis of his literary contemporary in every particular; he was not only an uncommon personality, but he was one of the most gifted men of his time, with an outspoken courage which frequently verged on recklessness. In his lifetime he played many parts; he was poet, priest, linguist, biblical critic, translator, and miscellaneous writer, and in his various rôles is an author whose name should be mentioned with respect by his countrymen, inasmuch as few, if any, of his contemporaries did more to advance the reputation of Scottish literature in the domain of higher scholarship. His father was a farmer, and our author was born at the small farm of Arradowl, in the parish of Ruthven, Banffshire, in 1737, and was brought up a devout Roman Catholic. From an early age he manifested an uncommon devotion to study, which was encouraged by his parents, and it proved a useful acquisition in later years. Almost the first book that fell into his hands was a copy of the English Bible, which for the most part comprised his father's library, being a man of few wants and few books. According to his own account his parents taught him to read it with attention and reverence, and before the age of eleven he had committed all the historical parts to memory. His education commenced early, and he was first taught to read by a village schoolmistress named Sellar, of whom he always spoke with the greatest respect in after years.

Subsequently he was educated as a Catholic priest at Scalan, a monastic seminary in the Highlands, from which he was transferred to the Scots College in Paris, where he acquired a knowledge of Hebrew, Greek, Italian, Latin, French, German, Spanish, and Dutch. In 1764 he returned to Scotland, and after his arrival in Edinburgh was ordered to fix his residence at Dundee, in the capacity of officiating priest, but soon afterwards became the domestic chaplain to the Earl of Traquair, where he had access to a well-selected library, which enabled him to continue his favourite study of biblical criticism. While at the residence of Lord Traquair there was a young female relation of the noble Earl residing with the family who became fascinated with the young priest, and though he turned philosopher with the view of suppressing his own feelings, he felt it difficult to refrain from returning her affections.

As he had taken the vow of celibacy, however, and determined that its sanctity should not be trifled with, he abruptly broke away from the delightful shades of the noble Earl's hospitable mansion, leaving a short poem, entitled "The Confessional," to the fair but innocent author of his misfortunes. He once more repaired to France, with the determination of subverting his more tender thoughts for others of a more stern and intellectual character. After nine months' absence he returned to his native country in the spring of 1769, and was entrusted with a congregation at Auchinhalrig, in Banffshire, where he remained for ten years, and was much respected by his congregation. While here he manifested a breadth of opinion and religious toleration seldom to be met with in one holding the office of priest or cleric. Such was his toleration that he not only lived on the most friendly terms with his Protestant neighbours, but went so far as to occasionally appear in the Church of a Protestant friend as a listener if not a worshipper. In any case it resulted in his being deposed from all his ecclesiastical functions by the less tolerant prelate, Bishop Hay. This action on the part of the Bishop did not much disturb his equanimity; he continued to cultivate the kindly feelings of his Protestant friends, amongst

whom were the Earl of Buchan, Lord Findlater, Principal Robertson, the Poet Beattie, and Dr Reid, and almost all the Professors of both Edinburgh and Aberdeen. These men thought so highly of his scholastic attainments that they made him LL.D. of Aberdeen University. After his deposition Geddes resolved to go to London, and there devote his time to literature, where he arrived in 1780, being then forty-two years of age. He had long contemplated a new translation of the Scriptures for the use of Roman Catholics, and by the munificence of Lord Petre he was enabled to devote himself to the work. In the first instance he issued an elaborate prospectus, which he submitted to Dr Lowth, the Protestant Bishop of London, at whose suggestion he wrote an entirely new prospectus setting forth the plan he proposed to follow in his translation. When it was completed he again submitted it to Dr Lowth, who returned an answer this time highly gratifying to the feelings of the author. The first volume appeared in 1792, the second in 1793, carrying the translation as far as the end of the historical books; and the third was issued in 1800, containing his critical remarks on the Hebrew Scriptures. It was not long before the learned public discovered that these volumes were conspicuous for their heretical views, more especially the last one, which offended Catholic and Protestant alike. All of them, however, revealed a pronounced Rationalistic tendency which was as exceptional as it was unpopular at that time of day even to the most advanced Protestant, not to speak of the orthodox Catholic. Indeed, he went a considerable length in the direction of eliminating the supernatural element from the Scriptures altogether, broadly insinuating that such stories as that of the description of the creation in Genesis should be classed amongst poetical or philosophical fictions, the authorship of which could not be definitely assigned to Moses. Assuming that Moses did write them, however, it could only establish his claim to great talents such as Numa and Lycurgus had, but like them he was a false pretender to personal intercourse with the Deity, and should be identified with men, who by a pious fraud contrived to add a divine sanction to mere human wisdom. Such in brief were the

views of Geddes on the Scriptures, which had a disquieting effect upon those who had been accustomed to accept the Bible as an infallible book. Moreover, he claimed that the Bible should be submitted to the same critical test as that which had been applied to the Greek and Roman classics.

What wonder that such views should have exposed the author to the charge of infidelity in those days when the enunciation of similar views by Professor Tyndall, in his famous Belfast Address, nearly a century later, exposed him to the charge of Atheism? In addition to his contribution of English biblical criticism, Geddes wrote a number of articles and pamphlets in his own defence "A Disquisition on the Penal Law," "An Apology for the Roman Catholics of Great Britain," also several poems in Latin, English, and the Scottish vernacular. On his being enrolled a member of the Antiquarian Society of Scotland, he made it the occasion of a long Scottish poem, in the course of which he makes humorous references to Ramsay, Fergusson, and Burns. In the poem he refers to Burns several times, but the following four lines are the most pointed :—

> "An' Burns in gowden cyphers shine
> Wi' Inglis, Lindsay, Ballandyne,
> Gilbraith, Montgomery ; an' far
> Before the laif, ornate Dunbar."

In the first and only volume of the Antiquarian *Transactions*, published in Edinburgh in 1792, there are three Scottish poems with a dissertation on the Scoto-Saxon Dialect, by the Rev. Alexander Geddes, LL.D. Moreover, in the *Analytical Review*, which was commenced in 1788, Geddes contributed a number of criticisms and reviews, amongst which were a review of Dr Campbell's translation of the four Gospels, upon which he was well qualified to pass judgment, and Wakefield's *Sylva Critica*. In 1797 he published the "Battle of Bangor, or the Church's Triumph," a comic heroic poem in nine cantos, in the course of which he submits his own Church to a good deal of clever sarcasm, and it is perhaps the most finished of Geddes's English poems. In it he has taken Boileau and Pope as his

models. The remaining two Scots poems of Geddes are translations of the first eclogue of Virgil and the first idyll of Theocritus. With his characteristic versatility, he has, in his translation from "Virgil," adopted the Edinburgh dialect of the time, and, in the translation from Theocritus, he has recourse to the Buchan dialect. The writings enumerated above are only a portion of what Dr Geddes has produced, though they are perhaps the more important of this prolific author's works. Not only was he a prolific author, he was a brilliant and fascinating conversationalist—rich in epigram, "and a man of infinite jest," who, in spite of his eccentricities and foibles, was admired and respected by all who knew him, irrespective of creed or party.

WM. M'ILWRAITH.

IN THE NURSERY OF THE BURNESES.

THE district between Montrose and Stonehaven and extending westwards to the braes of Glenbervie is the nursery of the race of Burnes, Burness, or Burns. It is not, however, very often associated with the name of the Poet. When Scotsmen think or speak of him, their thoughts generally turn to the country watered by the Faile, the Doon, the Ayr, and the Nith, and rarely to that where the Carron runs, the Bervie, the Luthar, and the North Esk. He has been appropriated as peculiarly their own by the counties of Ayr and Dumfries. Together they formed the arena of his life. In one he was born: in the other he died and was committed to the dust. We have, nevertheless, only to go back to his father's early life to find that Burns's associations are spread over a much wider tract of country than the two southern counties through which the drumlie current of his stormy life chiefly ran. He belongs to Scotland in a far wider and more real sense than is commonly supposed. The claim of his country to her greatest son comes before that of the town to which he owed his birth. He cannot be referred to a parish, who, through kindred and descent, in a true and broader view is Scotland's. To substantiate his country's right to him, and to show that there is no one centre of Burns tradition was one of the incentives to the writing of the following paper. In one sense its subject is local, but only if the monopoly in his name, fame, and memory, so long enjoyed by Ayr and Dumfries, is to be made perpetual. Otherwise it cannot be more strictly local than it would be if the names of the Bervie and Montrose were exchanged for the Nith and Ayr. It is, in truth, absurd to call anything relating to Burns local. If he and the fruits of his genius form part of the heritage of his people, the interest of anything affecting his ancestry, his life, or his memory must needs be at least as wide as Scotland.

Many stories have long been floating about Angus and Mearns turning upon alleged visits of the Poet Burns to these counties, in both youth and manhood. They cluster most thickly about Strathmore, from the town of Forfar upwards to Stonehaven. Some of them are so obviously untrue as to be absurd, others are highly improbable, and none of them is supported by valid testimony. The only occasion upon which Burns is, beyond a doubt, known to have passed through Kincardineshire and Forfarshire was towards the close of his Highland tour in 1787.

He and his friend Nicol left Edinburgh on 25th August of that year, and returned to the city on the 16th September, after a three weeks' scamper. He was in Aberdeen on Monday, 10th September, and seems to have passed south to Stonehaven on the same day. He was there met by his cousin, the second James Burness, of Montrose. He had written James on the 4th from Inverness:—"I shall be in Stonhive [*i.e.*, Stonehaven] sometime on Monday, the 10th inst., and I beg the favour of you to meet me there. I understand there is but one inn at Stonhive, so you cannot miss me. As I am in the country, I certainly shall see any of my father's relations that are any way near my road; but I do not even know their names, or where one of them lives, so I hope you will meet me and be my guide." Burns afterwards wrote Gilbert that he spent two days among their relations, and mentions their aunts Jean and Isabel; William Brand of Auchenblae in Fordoun, Isabel's husband; and John Caird of Denside, Dunnottar, husband of their aunt Elspet. Jean was the wife of John Burnes, sub-tenant of Bogjorgan, one of the ancestral farms upon Inchbreck in Glenbervie.

Under a close examination, Burns's "two days" shrink into the evening of one day and part of the next. From what he tells in his diary of his doings in Aberdeen on Monday, 10th September, the day must have been far spent before he started south. It would, accordingly, be late before he reached Stonehaven. Of that town he says: "Meet my relations," and makes particular mention of Robert Burnes, writer, and his wife. The next entry is: "Tuesday.—Breakfast with Mr Burnes—lie at Laurencekirk,"

etc. From this it would appear that he and his cousin from Montrose spent the night at the inn, after calling upon his lawyer relative Robert, and met such of his other relations as had assembled at Robert's either on the evening of Monday or on Tuesday. After breakfasting with Robert, he resumed his journey, and passed the next night at Laurencekirk. It is well-nigh impossible that he could have called upon the Cairds at their own house in Denside, where his grandfather spent the closing years of his sombre life ; that he could thereafter have left the high-road down the Howe of the Mearns at Drumlithie, and driven out at least three-and-a-half miles in order to look in upon his relatives who held the farms of Bogjorgan and Bralinmuir, where his forefathers had lived for more than two hundred years upon Glenbervie ; that returning to Drumlithie, and going several miles south, he again left the high-road that he might call upon the Brands at Auchenblae.

If he did all this and met his relations in their own homes, and not in Stonehaven, it is very curious that in neither diary nor letter does he make mention of having done so. If the Cairds told him anything of the last days of his grandfather, he says nothing of it. More mysterious still is his silence concerning Clochnabill, his grandfather's farm, and where his own father was not only born, but spent the first bleak twenty-four years of his clouded life. For it must be remembered that after leaving Stonehaven a few miles behind, Burns drove within sight of the old homestead lying on the face of Carmount. That he could knowingly pass a place consecrated by many sorrowful memories of his father's early years and make no sign, is well-nigh incredible. The probability is that such of his relations as he met had been brought together for that purpose by Robert Burnes, the Stonehaven solicitor. His cousin James from Montrose was no doubt with Burns, but it is quite possible that James knew little either of the family history or of the places associated with past generations of Burneses, or of relatives following occupations outside his own profession, the law. As for Burns, if we may implicitly trust his diary, he seems to have realised little

between Robert of Stonehaven who "loved fun, a gill, a punning joke," and the "jolly, frank, sensible, love-inspiring widow" of Laurencekirk.

That Burns went direct from Stonehaven to Laurencekirk is supported by a passage in the first letter he wrote his cousin in Montrose, after his return to Edinburgh. The letter is dated 19th September, and with it Burns sent nine copies of the second edition of his poems. "The one to Lord Gardenstone," he tells his cousin, "you will transmit as soon as possible." Neither Scott-Douglas nor Dr Wallace appears to have attached so much importance to Lord Gardenstone as to explain who he was. He was born in 1721, and was the second son of Laird Garden of Troup in the county of Banff. Having passed as advocate on 14th July, 1744, he was raised to the Bench on 3rd July, 1764, as Lord Gardenstone. Wild in his youth, he finally settled down, and, although figuring in Kay's gallery of Edinburgh "characters," became chiefly known as a judicious but generous philanthropist. Prior to his appointment as Lord of Session, he had been Sheriff of Kincardineshire and lived at Woodstock in Fordoun. In 1785 he succeeded his brother as proprietor of Troup, and, apparently several years previously, had acquired the estate of Johnston in the Mearns. He died in 1793. As proprietor of Johnston, he greatly improved and extended Laurencekirk, but he did not, as is often alleged, found the village. Its site passed gradually from Haulkertoun estate to that of Johnston, and when it thus came under the special care of Lord Gardenstone, he gave it its first start towards prosperity. He endeavoured to attract handicraftsmen, and to make Laurencekirk a centre of industry. He was eminently successful, and was honoured by the townsfolk as the real founder of their burgh. In the books of the Town Council, in fact, his death is minuted as that of "our benevolent and worthy founder," and for many years afterwards his birthday was observed as an annual festival.

What, then, more likely than that Burns, instead of diverging towards the Glenbervie farms and Auchenblae, should have devoted part of Tuesday, 11th September, to paying his respects

to Lord Gardenstone, owner of the barony of Johnston, and feudal superior of Laurencekirk, which, through his influence, had in 1779 been erected into a burgh of barony? Leaving Laurencekirk on the following day, Burns records in his diary and one letter all that he tells of his visit to Montrose:—

Wednesday, 12th September.—"Cross North Esk river and a rich country to Craigow. Go to Montrose, that finely-situated, handsome town."

Thursday, 13th September.—"Leave Montrose. Breakfast at Auchmuthie, and sail along that wild, rocky coast, and see the famous caverns, particularly the Gariepot."

The letter referred to was first published by Scott-Douglas, and is as follows:—

"Townfield, six o'clock morning.—My Dear Cousin,—Mr Nicol and Mr Carnegie have taken some freak in their heads, and have wakened me just now with the rattling of the chaise to carry me to meet them at Craigie to go on our journey some other road, and breakfast by the way. I must go, which makes me very sorry. I beg my kindest, best compliments to your wife and all the good friends I saw yester-night," etc.

Scott-Douglas states that the date at the end of the letter, "Montrose, 13th September," is in the handwriting of Mr James Burness, to whom it is addressed. To the questions, Where was Townfield? Where was Craigie? Who was Mr Carnegie? no editor has endeavoured to make reply. By answering them, nevertheless, we are enabled to keep Burns in sight from the time of his crossing the North Esk until he left Montrose. On reaching Craigs—called Craigow by Burns—James Burness almost certainly caused the chaise to stop at Craigs House, the mansion of a branch of the widespread Carnegies, and to this day occupied by a Miss Carnegy. He would do so in order to tell Mr Carnegie of the standing and quality of his poet-cousin, and to invite Carnegie to spend the evening at his (James's) residence in Montrose. That the invitation was accepted is shown by the sequel. Driving over the hill now surmounted by the Asylum of Sunnyside, James would next call a

halt at Townfield. And here, from a change of name, the danger of going astray is most nearly imminent. The house is now called Gayfield, but when Alexander Christie, Provost of Montrose, built it in 1781, he gave it the name of Townfield. It is situated at Hillside, about two miles from Montrose. Having introduced his cousin to Provost Christie, and secured the presence of the latter at the evening party, James would direct the driver's route to Montrose.

At that time the chief inn was the Turk's Head, and it offered two inducements to our travellers. It stood in what is now George Street, close by the residence of James Burness, and its landlord was a namesake, one William Burness. The latter was in all probability connected with the original Burns stock. We know, at any rate, that James Burness (1690-1778), successively tenant of Hawkhill and Bralinmuir, in Glenbervie, had one son, William, either an exciseman or a custom-house officer in Montrose, and another son, James, a farmer near the town. William, the innkeper, may have been a son of either, or otherwise related to them.

Of the movements of Burns and his party it is now possible to speak almost with the certainty of eye-witnesses The chaise was put up and quarters bespoke at the Turk's Head, probably for three of the party, since Craigo House being between four and five miles away, Carnegie had obviously decided to make a night of it with his new-made friends. That matter settled, we see the four crossing the street to James's residence at the head of the Bow Butts—so-called because archery was practised there in ancient times. The old distinctive name has been displaced by the tame and meaningless title of Academy Lane, but the Burness mansion still stands, a plain, almost bald, structure, with concrete front, modernised interior, and now occupied by a cabinetmaker. It is, however, wreathed round with associations both inspiring and pathetic. It enters into the tragedy of Burns's life.

Let us suppose that on the evening we have reached, that of 12th September, 1787, Burns was at his brilliant best, and that

to his electrified hearers "the minutes winged their way wi' pleasure." The evening passes. A few years pass—nine, to be exact—and to James Burness in the same mansion came from the Poet, then dying in Dumfries, the piteous appeal, "Save me from the horrors of a jail!" From this building the response was made, generous and kindly, but too late. How would the Poet's letter be read in James's household? How would the written plea be contrasted with the living voice? And when James died, and his son rose to be Provost of Montrose and the father of manly sons, it was from the same unpretentious dwelling that two went out to the East to die in their country's service. One, Alexander, had reached the honour of knighthood when, in 1841, both he and his brother Charles were murdered at Cabool. In such fashion memories thicken round the prosaic building.

To return to the Poet, among the guests of James Burness was Provost Christie, and when the time came for the party to separate, Carnegie and Nicol appear to have recrossed the street to the Turk's Head, while the Provost carried off Burns to his own residence of Townfield at Hillside. Next morning Carnegie and Nicol are astir betimes, long before it is light, and, driving off without breakfast, rouse Burns from sleep, leave the chaise for him to follow them, and set out on foot across the hill to Craigo. The arrangement was that he and Nicol should part with Mr Carnegie at Craigo House—the Craigie of Burns's Townfield letter to his cousin—possibly after a first early repast, and then continue their course southwards.

What, then, does Burns mean by continuing the "journey some other road?" He probably thought of taking the direct route south through Montrose, not knowing that the way was barred by the wide outlet of the expansive tidal basin to the west of the town, in which, moreover, the waters of the river South Esk mingling were lost. There may have been some means by which the chaise and horses would have been ferried over, but the old wooden bridge, which preceded the present suspension bridge, was not built until 1794—seven years after Burns's visit to Montrose. It is very likely that Carnegie would enlighten Nicol

upon the subject, and that that was at the bottom of the morning meeting at Craigo House. The two travellers would set out thence by one of the roads leading west, and, crossing the lower Brechin road, would reach the southern bank of the South Esk by the Bridge of Dun, which had been finished on 27th January, 1787, the year of the Poet's tour. After that, by keeping straight up the brae at Maryton, they would strike the Arbroath road, and so driven on to Auchmithie—called Auchmuthie by Burns—where they took boat and sailed round to Arbroath. Going round Montrose Basin by Bridge of Dun involved a detour of only a few miles. A few representatives of the race of Burness still linger in and around Montrose, but it need hardly be said that the direct descendants of the Bard went elsewhere.

EDWARD PINNINGTON.

HALLOWE'EN.

The Work of Burns and Mayne.

HALLOWE'EN, I learn, has never formed the subject of an article in the *Burns Chronicle*, and I propose in the following pages to give some account of the ancient festival. The subject is one that must interest all students of the National Poet of Scotland, since but for him we should know very much less about it than we do.

Hallowe'en is decaying—it might, indeed, be said with truth that it has ceased to be observed—and it is certain that but for the notice given to it by Burns it would have been neglected earlier. I am not old enough to remember the observance for much more than two decades, and my experience of it is confined to the neighbourhood of Glasgow, where town life and country life meet. Were I, from my own experience—and I think it is the commonest experience—to test Hallowe'en as it is now observed with what was written by Burns, I should say decidedly that it is defunct. It exists in a form too corrupt to deserve the name. On the night of the 31st October there are house parties chiefly for the benefit of the young, but beyond the burning of nuts and the ducking for apples, there is nothing characteristic of Hallowe'en about these gatherings. What takes place on the streets bears even less resemblance to the ceremonies described by the Poet. I cannot see the connection between Hallowe'en and the parading of the streets by juveniles who wear false or blackened faces, and clothing which is noticeable because it is turned inside out or belongs to the opposite sex, and carry in their hands sticks and Chinese or turnip lanterns. Ask them what they are about, and they will reply that they are "haudin' Hallowe'en." They are ignorant of Hallowe'en, and do not

know it. This ignorance is a sure sign of the decay of a festival that was once eagerly anticipated and long remembered, because it meant so much to those who took part in it. Only so long as Hallowe'en was believed to have a meaning could it be said to be alive.

Some Burns clubs pretend to celebrate Hallowe'en by a social gathering; but the difference between a tattie an' herrin' supper, followed by distribution of nuts and apples, and the practices of the "merry, friendly countra folks," who convened one night on the banks of the Doon to "haud their Hallowe'en" when the Poet was there to see, is as great as might be. Not even is there a resemblance between the dishes. "Sowens, with butter instead of milk to them, is," says Burns, "always the Hallowe'en supper."

> Butter'd so'ns, wi' fragrant lunt
> Set a' their gabs a-steerin'.

The great majority of members of Burns clubs could not, I suppose, tell what sowens are composed of; but there must be few houses in Scotland where they are made now, and there is no occasion to marvel at the lack of knowledge. Sowens are made from the husks of oatmeal soured and steeped, the resultant liquid being boiled and thickened.

> Wi' merry sangs and friendly cracks,
> I wat they didna weary;
> And unco tales and funny jokes,
> Their sports were cheap and cheery.

Here is to be detected the only similarity between a Hallowe'en supper at the end of the eighteenth century and one at the beginning of the twentieth century.

But the decay of Hallowe'en did not begin with the present generation. I find from Chambers's "Life of Burns," first published about the middle of last century, that "most of the ceremonies appropriate to Hallowe'en, including all those of an adventurous character, are now disused. Meetings of young people still take place on that evening, both in country and town, but their frolics are usually limited to ducking for apples in tubs of water—a ceremony overlooked by Burns—the lottery of the

dishes, and pulling of cabbage stalks. The other ceremonies are discountenanced as more superstitious than is desirable and somewhat dangerous."

Monie a ane has gotten a fricht
And liv'd and di'd deleeret
On sic a nicht.

Professor Wilson, the warm-hearted and jovial Christopher North, in his essay on the genius and character of Burns, produced about the same date as the "Life" by Chambers, said that "Hallowe'en is now almost an obsolete word, and the liveliest of all festivals that used to usher in the winter with one long night of mirthful mockery and superstitious fancies, not unattended with stirrings of imaginative fears in many a simple breast, is gone with many other customs of the good old time—not among town folk only, but among dwellers in rural parishes, far withdrawn from the hum of crowds, where all such rites originate and later fall into desuetude. In practice extinct to elderly people, it survives in poetry, and there the body of the harmless superstition in its very form and presence, is embalmed."

Hallowe'en, the eve of All Saints, like many other observances which have more or less been forgotten, was based on superstition. In that most interesting work, Chambers's "Book of Days," it is stated that "Hallowe'en is clearly a relic of Pagan times, for there is nothing in the church observance of the ensuing day of All Saints to have originated such extraordinary notions as are connected with this celebrated festival, or such remarkable practices as those by which it is distinguished." To make another quotation from the same work :—"The leading idea respecting Hallowe'en is that it is the time, of all others, when supernatural influences prevail. It is the night set apart for a universal walking abroad of spirits, both of the visible and invisible world; for one of the special characteristics attributed to this mystic evening is the faculty conferred on the immaterial principle in humanity to detach itself from its corporeal tenement, and wander through the realms of space. Divination is then believed to attain its highest power, and the gift asserted by Glendower, of calling spirits 'from the vasty deep,' becomes available

to all who choose to avail themselves of the privileges of the occasion."

"The passion of prying into futurity," to use words which Burns prefixed to his poem, "makes a striking part of the history of human nature, in its rude state, in all ages and nations." Various charms and spells were practised to obtain knowledge of the future. There is nothing that one is more anxious to know than who is to be one's life partner, and this was the sole object of divination on All Hallows eve. That those who took part in those spells and charms had faith in their efficacy may readily be believed. Hallowe'en could only be truly observed among an unenlightened people, and Burns makes it clear that it was not the cultured classes by whom the anniversary was held. The latter were too educated to be superstitious, and so Hallowe'en to them was merely a subject of historical interest. Being based on superstition, Hallowe'en was bound to pass away with the spread of knowledge. That is what has happened, and Burns himself is largely responsible for the result. He is the best historian of Hallowe'en, and yet he was one of the first to give it a death blow. It is a unique circumstance. There was no one less superstitious than Burns, and he did much to remove what was a great obstacle to the mental growth of the people. "Hallowe'en," he wrote, "is thought to be a night when witches, devils, and other mischief-making beings are all abroad on their baneful midnight errands; particularly those aerial people, the fairies, are said on that night to hold a grand anniversary." It was the thought of other people he was giving—not his own. In describing the practices of Hallowe'en, he gives a ludicrous ending to four of these, and in this way showed how foolish was the belief in them. To give only one instance:—When "fechtin' Jamie Fleck" went out to sow and harrow hemp seed, and at a particular stage of the operation chanced to look over his shoulder and beheld the vision of his future spouse:

He whistl'd up Lord Lennox' march
  To keep his courage cheery;
Altho' his hair began to arch,
  He was sae fley'd and eerie;

Till presently he hears a squeak,
  And then a grane and gruntle;
He by his shouther gae a keek,
  And tumbl'd wi' a wintle
    Out-owre that nicht.

He roar'd a horrid murder shout,
  In dreadfu' desperation!
And young and auld cam' rinnin' out
  To hear the sad narration;
He swore 'twas hilchin Jean M'Craw,
  Or crouchie Merran Humphie,
Till, stop! she trotted thro' them a',
  And wha was it but grumphie
    Asteer that nicht?

Into the details of the "Hallowe'en" of Burns it is not necessary to enter here; the poem must be familiar to every reader of these lines. But there is another poem on the same subject which is not so familiar, and to it some attention may now be devoted. I refer to the "Hallowe'en" of John Mayne, a poem which is interesting to us, not merely because of its subject, but because it is believed to have suggested the more famous production of Burns, who, it is well known, frequently found his subjects in the works of his predecessors. But when Burns took up a theme which had already been treated by some one else, he so greatly improved upon it that the work of the other was eclipsed. This was the case with Mayne's effort, which was first published in *Ruddyman's Weekly Magazine*, in November, 1780, six years before Burns, in the prolific Mossgiel period, composed his matchless narrative. When the "Hallowe'en" of the Ayrshire Bard was given to the world, Mayne's poem was so completely superseded that in the long interval it has been printed only once. It is to be found, together with a few biographical particulars and specimens of his other and better work, in the eighteenth century volume of the Abbotsford series of Scottish poets, edited by Mr George Eyre-Todd.

John Mayne, I ought to say here, was a native of Dumfries, where he was born in 1759, also the birth year of Burns, so that he had just reached manhood when his verses were printed. He was apprenticed as a compositor to the celebrated Foulis Brothers in Glasgow, a city which engaged the attention of his muse, but

he afterwards migrated to London, where the greater part of his life was spent as a printer and as joint proprietor of *The Star* newspaper. Mayne is best known by his song "Logan Braes:" but his most sustained effort is the "Siller Gun," which describes the competition held in his day for a trophy presented by James VI. to the Dumfries wapenschaw.

The two poems will not bear comparison. The most unskilled critic could tell at a glance which is the superior effort. Mayne gives you the impression that he found a description of Hallowe'en too much for him, and suddenly dropped the task; Burns brings before you the whole proceedings of the night, and portrays them minutely and with ease. Mayne begins his poem by a reference to the popularity of Hallowe'en:

O' a' the festivals we hear,
Frae Handsel Monday till New Year,
There's few in Scotland held mair dear
For mirth, I ween,
Or yet can boast o' better cheer
Than Hallowe'en.

Then he introduces us to a farmer's ingleside where the farmer and the servants have assembled, and gives us an idea how they pass this, one of the merriest, nights of the year:

Ranged round a bleezin' ingleside,
Where nowther cauld nor hunger bide,
The farmer's house, wi' sacred pride,
Will a' convene;
For that day's wark is thrown aside
At Hallowe'en.

The guidwife presides over the company at the beginning, and sees that a proper start is made.

Placed at their head the guidwife sits,
And deals round apples, pears and nits;
Syne tells her guests how at sic bits
Where she has been,
Bogles ha'e gart folk tyne their wits
At Hallowe'en.

Grieved she recounts how by mischance
Puir pussy's forced a' night to prance
Wi' fairies, wha in thousands dance
Upon the green,
Or sail wi' witches o'er to France
At Hallowe'en.

After these hair-raising narratives, the setting of the supper will be welcomed by all, the command that this be done coming from the auld guidman seated in the arm-chair.

Syne issued frae the gardy chair,
For that's the seat o' empire there,
To co'er the table wi' what's rare
Comman's are gi'en ;
That a' fu' daintily may fare
At Hallowe'en.

Mayne does not tell us what dish or dishes composed the feast, but there was evidently more variety than "butter'd so'ns, wi' fragrant lunt." It is to be noted that in the gathering which Burns describes the supper immediately precedes the breaking up of the party.

Syne wi' a social glass o' strunt
They parted aff careering
Fu' blythe that nicht.

In the gathering of which Mayne makes us the spectators the opposite is the case. Those spells which were the leading feature of Hallowe'en are not begun till the supper is over :

And when they've toomed ilk heapit plate,
And a' things are laid out o' gate,
To ken their matrimonial mate,
The youngsters keen,
Search a' the dark decrees o' fate
At Hallowe'en.

A' things prepared in order due,
Gosh guide's ! what fearfu' pranks ensue !

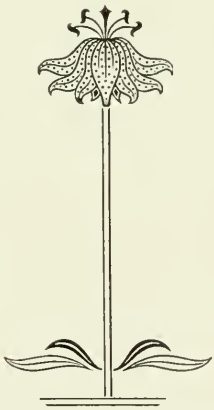
What these pranks are we are left largely to conjecture, Mayne making mention of only three of the rites — throwing the clew of blue yarn into the kiln pot, "winnowing three wechts o' nae-thing," and sowing hemp seed. The last rite had a ludicrous ending, "puir Jock M'Lean," who had gone out to try it, falling plump into a dirty peat pit :

Half filled wi' fear, and droukit weel,
He frae the mire dught hardly spiel,
But frae that time the silly chiel
Did never grien
To cast his cantrips wi' the Deil
At Hallowe'en.

We see that Mayne, like Burns, had no faith in this kind of divination.

The work of Mayne was deservedly eclipsed by that of his great contemporary; but it is right to remember the humbler effort of the Dumfriesshire poet, because but for it Burns's splendid masterpiece, which Scotland will cherish for all time, might never have been written.

ANDREW M'CALLUM.



SOME OF BURNS'S AYR FRIENDS.

EVERY great man, like the sun, sheds a little of his own glory and radiance on those with whom he comes in contact. Therefore, although it is impossible to deal in so small a space with all the friends and well-wishers of Robert Burns, I have tried to give a few interesting facts about those that were to him the nearest and dearest—leaving out, of course, his relations and those of whom sufficient has already been written.

JOHN MURDOCH, born at Ayr in 1747, received a liberal education at the Grammar School, which in 1776 is said to have "boasted 60 pupils." Murdoch finished his education in Edinburgh, but later William Burness took the lead in installing him as teacher in a cottage not a stone's throw from the "clay biggin'" at Alloway. From him Robert Burns and his brother Gilbert received the little regular education they ever got, and Murdoch took a great interest in the boy Robert, giving him much help and instruction in literature. This continued for over two years, during which time Murdoch boarded with William Burness and one or two neighbours in turn. Then he went to Dumfries. In 1772, however, Murdoch was appointed by the Council to be master of the first English school in Ayr, and, on his return to the town, his interest in Burns was renewed. Under his former guidance Burns had quickly mastered English and had taken rapid strides in French. Latin, however, which Mr Robinson, a friend of Murdoch's and a writing-master at Ayr Academy, tried to teach him, proved ever a stumbling-block. Now he came to his old master for a few weeks to "revise his English grammar," and Murdoch did everything in his power for the young genius. During this time the Poet lived with Murdoch in his house in the Sandgate, walking with him by day, and holding long discussions by night in their common bed. John Tennant, a son of "Glen-

conner," was also a favourite pupil of Murdoch's, and shared Burns's privileges to a large extent. One cannot help wondering what might have happened had Burns been allowed to know more of Murdoch. His natural genius would not have been improved, but the current of his life might have been vastly altered. We cannot change that now, and perhaps we would not if we could, for the conventions of civilisation hamper, if they do not altogether hinder, genius. I can think only with contempt of a friend of mine who wished Burns had had a university education. He objected to his morals as though a university career would have tended to better them. No; we have enough Byrons and Shelleys, with their souls trying to pierce through and shine out from the shroud of convention; and it comes as a great relief when we find Burns as God made him—a little the worse of contact with his fellow-men, perhaps, but an honest Greatheart to the end. What might have happened had Murdoch remained in Ayr we cannot with certainty say; suffice it that the Council thought fit to take exception to some disrespectful utterances made by him anent Mr Dalrymple, minister in Ayr, and in 1776 Murdoch was dismissed. He was alleged to have called Mr Dalrymple "as revengeful as hell, and as false as the devil—that he was a liar and a damned liar," and to have accused him of hypocrisy. After some stay in London and Paris he ultimately settled in London as a teacher of French and English. Burns corresponded with him in London, where, after a period of ill health, he died in 1824.

Rev. William Dalrymple, D.D., born at Ayr 29th August, 1723, received second charge of Ayr parish in 1746. In 1756, on the death of his colleague, Rev. John Hunter, whose daughter he married, he was inducted to the first charge. He baptised Robert Burns on 26th January, 1759, the day succeeding his birth. The baptism was recorded as follows:—"Robert Burns, lawful son of William Burness, in Alloway, and Agnes Broun, his spouse, was born on January 25th, 1759; baptised by Rev. William Dalrymple. Witness: John Tennant and James Young." Dalrymple is spoken of by Burns in "The Kirk's Alarm" as

"Dalrymple mild! Dalrymple mild!
Tho' your heart's like a child,
And your life like new-driven snaw."

He got his degree at St. Andrews University in 1779, and was elected Moderator of the General Assembly in 1781. He died 28th January, 1814.

JOHN TENNANT, born in 1725, rented the farm of Laigh Corton. He was near neighbour to William Burness at Mount Oliphant. He became factor to the Countess of Glencairn at Ochiltree in 1769. When the Kilmarnock edition was published, he drew the attention of the Countess to it, and thereafter she was Burns's great admirer. In token of this, Burns presented John Tennant with his favourite work—"Letters concerning the Religion essential to Man as it is distant from what is merely an accession to it," and on which he wrote, "A paltry present from Robert Burns, the Scotch Bard, to his own friend and his father's friend, John Tennant in Glenconner, 20th December, 1786." Tennant was now a farmer in Glenconner, by which name he was known. His second son by his second marriage was John Tennant, who boarded with Burns at Murdoch's house. He was born in 1760 and was a distiller, but latterly a farmer. He purchased the estate of Creoch in Ochiltree and died in 1853. This is not the John Tennant who was present at Burns's baptism, though it has been so asserted for many years. The John Tennant, witness, was a cousin of "Glenconner," and was born in Alloway, March 30, 1732. His land adjoined the "clay biggin'," and his wife, Agnes M'Clure, daughter of Thomas M'Clure of Alloway, was present with Agnes Broun at the birth of her first-born, Robert. John Tennant, smith, Alloway, had several sons, three of whom attained manhood. They were Thomas, John, and David Tennant, and the land became the property of David, the youngest son, a notice of whose death we copy from *The Ayr Advertiser*, 17th July, 1851—"Tennant.—At Alloway, Ayr, on the 12th inst., Mr David Tennant, blacksmith, aged 80 years. The deceased is deserving of a passing notice as a man of solid worth, genuine piety, and usefulness in the locality, where, amid the respect of his neighbours, he spent his long life. His mother

was present at the birth of the Poet Burns, and he himself recollected the poet in his early days," etc. It is owing to the similarity of name, and the fact that both of the Tennants' lands adjoined those of William Burness, that the mistake has, in the first instance, arisen. Commonsense, however, makes it clear that Wm. Burness would naturally go to his next-door neighbour for assistance both at the birth and next day for a witness at the baptism. Laigh Corton is several miles from the cottage, and there is nothing to prove that Wm. Burness knew "Glenconner" before he, Burness, went to live at Mount Oliphant, which was when the Poet was seven years of age. This seems to be the truth of the matter, and we are indebted to Mr John Tennant, Ayr, grandson of David Tennant, who was also born at Alloway, for the notice and the dates.

William Fergusson of Doonholm, who was provost of Ayr for a number of years, had spent most of his life as a medical practitioner in London, where he amassed a large fortune. He rebuilt Doonholm and added extensively to the lands. William Burness was gardener at Doonholm at the time of his son Robert's birth, and Fergusson was all his life a warm friend to him and his family. On his leaving the cottage and going to Mount Oliphant, Mr Fergusson assisted him with the loan of £100. He died in 1776, leaving four daughters—Mrs Hunter, Mrs Fleming of Barrochan, Mrs Kelso, wife of Col. Kelso of Dankeith, and one unmarried daughter who resided with Mr and Mrs Hunter at Doonholm.

John Ballantine of Castlehill, a banker in Ayr, was one of the earliest patrons of Burns, and his warm friend and admirer. In 1787 he was elected chief magistrate of the town of Ayr. To him Burns dedicated "The Brigs o' Ayr," and he is also mentioned elsewhere, as in "The Kirk's Alarm," where he figures as Provost John :—

> "Toun of Ayr, toun of Ayr!
> It was rash, I declare,
> To meddle wi' mischief abrewin';
> Provost John is still deaf
> To the Church's relief,
> And orator Bob is its ruin."

Ballantine died unmarried on 15th July, 1812.

Robert Aiken, a writer in Ayr, son of John Aiken, shipmaster there and Sarah Dalrymple, his wife, purchased the estate of Whitehall. He became acquainted with Burns through John Hunter of Bonnieton, his wife's brother, who had become familiar with the Poet's verses through his sister, Mrs Fergusson of Doonholm. Burns said of Aiken—"Aiken read me into fame." He is the "orator Bob" mentioned in "The Kirk's Alarm." He certainly did all in his power for the Poet, and succeeded in getting orders for 145 copies—nearly one-fourth of the impression of the first edition of his works. Burns acknowledged this and his other kindnesses by dedicating to him "The Cottar's Saturday Night." He also wrote his epitaph :—

> "Know thou, oh! stranger to the fame
> Of this much-loved, much-honoured name!
> For none that knew him need be told
> A warmer heart Death ne'er made cold."

The warmest friendship and regard continued between Mr Aiken and the Poet. After a period of bad health, the former died on 24th March, 1807. He had married Janet, daughter of Andrew Hunter, Writer to the Signet, and it was to their eldest son, Andrew Hunter Aiken, that Burns addressed the lines "Epistle to a young friend." This Mr A. H. Aiken was a merchant in Liverpool, and latterly settled at Riga, where he acted as British Consul. He died there in 1832. John Aiken, the second son of Robert Aiken, was captain of an East Indiaman, and afterwards an indigo planter. He married a daughter of General Green, and died in India leaving two daughters. Grace, the only daughter of Robert Aiken, had, as a child, been a great favourite with the Poet, and had delighted him by singing to him his own songs. When on a visit to her uncle, Dr Copland of Dumfries, she persuaded him to invite Burns to the house. He accepted the invitation, and Miss Aiken was distressed to see the change in his appearance. This was in March, 1796, and Burns said to her—"The fire in me is almost extinguished. I am the shadow of my former self." Miss Aiken, who cherished the memory of the Poet to the last, died at Ayr unmarried, 13th October, 1857.

James Candlish, an only son, intended for the ministry, which he gave up owing to the unsettled condition of his religious beliefs, had been a friend of Burns in childhood. He attended the Dalrymple School, and afterwards the Grammar School at Ayr. He did not again meet the Poet, however, until after the publication of the Kilmarnock edition. Candlish, who was studying medicine at Glasgow University, then wrote to Burns congratulating him on his work, and this was the beginning of a correspondence which led to a renewal of the old friendship. Candlish, who was reluctant to practice medicine, became a teacher of medicine in Edinburgh in 1788. Prior to this, however, and when he was teaching languages in Mauchline, he met his future wife, Jane Smith, of whom, in his "Mauchline Belles," Burns wrote: "Miss Smith she has wit." Candlish died in April, 1806.

James Dalrymple, of Orangefield, was one of Burns's early patrons and friends. He subscribed for ten copies of his poems, and introduced him to his cousin, the 14th Earl of Glencairn, on whose death Burns wrote the famous "Lament." In a letter to Gavin Hamilton, Esq., dated Edinburgh, December 27th, 1786, the Poet says:—"I have met in Mr Dalrymple, of Orangefield, what Solomon emphatically calls 'a friend that sticketh closer than a brother.' The warmth with which he interests himself in my affairs is of the same enthusiastic kind which you, Mr Aiken, and the few patrons that took notice of my earlier poetic days, showed for the poor 'unlucky devil of a poet.'" As Burns in one of his letters to Mr Dalrymple mentions the latter's "extempore effusions," it may be concluded that Dalrymple himself was of a poetic temperament. As he led a somewhat free life his affairs became embarrassed, and in 1791 he executed a disposition of trust of the lands and barony of Orangefield in favour of the Rev. William Dalrymple, one of the ministers of Ayr, John Ballantine, banker there, William Paterson, writer in Kilmarnock, and John Murdoch and Robert Aiken, writers in Ayr.

Gavin Hamilton, son of John Hamilton, writer in Mauchline, was born in 1751, and served his apprenticeship with his

father. He later started for himself, and in 1775 was appointed collector of the assessment for relief of the poor. He was Burns's landlord in Mauchline and a close friend. At the close of his difference with the kirk-session, which difference had arisen through Mr Hamilton's irregular attendance at the kirk, and his alleged sending of an abusive letter to the session, the case was brought before the Synod, and Mr Hamilton was declared victor. Burns, who had been keenly interested in the disagreement, wrote of the Auld Lights in general and of one elder in particular—William Fisher—in "Holy Willie's Prayer." Hamilton married the daughter of Robert Kennedy of Daljarroch, and died in 1805.

John Logan of Knockshinnoch, "a cultivated man," was introduced to Burns by Gavin Hamilton. He married Martha, the daughter of Captain MacAdam of Laigh and Carca on the banks of Afton. On the captain's death, Logan removed to Laigh, and Burns was a frequent and welcome visitor there. During one of his visits in 1791, he composed "Afton Water." Logan latterly resided in Ayr, and died 9th March, 1816.

William Logan of Camlaug was a retired officer living in Parkhouse near Ayr, and a gentleman well known and highly esteemed in Ayrshire. He had a pretty turn of wit and was also a poet and musician. His favourite instrument was the violin, and Neil Gow is said to have thought not a little of his musical talent. He is the Major Logan of whom Burns wrote—"Hail, thairm inspirin', rattlin' Willie." He died in 1819, unmarried.

Sir John Whiteford of Ballochmyle was a warm friend and admirer of Burns. Besides lines addressed to Sir John himself, the Poet wrote the "Farewell to Ballochmyle" in honour of Maria, his daughter, on the family leaving the property, which was sold in 1786 in consequence of the failure of the banking firm of Douglas Heron & Co. in 1785. Sir John and his daughter retired to Whiteford House, Edinburgh, a magnificent mansion, where he died in 1803. Ballochmyle became the property of Claud Alexander, to whose sister, Wilhelmina, Burns addressed the poem, "The Bonnie Lass o' Ballochmyle." He sent a copy of the song to the lady along with a letter, but he got no reply.

To a transcript of the letter in his commonplace book he has added the following note :—"Well, Mr Burns, and did the lady give you the desired permission? No! she was too fine a lady to notice so fine a compliment. As to her great brothers, whom I have since met in life on more equal terms of respectability—why should I quarrel with their want of attention to me? When Fate swore their purses would be full, Nature was equally positive their heads would be empty." Though they did not recognise Burns then, however, a nephew of Miss Wilhelmina had the Poet's letter and song handsomely framed and put on permanent exhibition in Mossgiel, where they were written. At the spot, too, where Burns and the heroine had met, he erected a commemorative grotto. Miss Wilhelmina died unmarried in 1843.

Colonel William Fullarton of Fullarton was born in 1754, and was educated at Edinburgh University. At the age of 21 he was appointed principal secretary to the Embassy of Lord Stormount at the Court of France. He fought in India and at the Cape of Good Hope, and served in Commodore Jackson's fleet. Coming back to Scotland, he published "A View of the English Interest in India, with Account of Campaigne in 1772-73-74." He was twice returned as M.P. for his native county of Ayr. At the breaking out of the French War in 1793 he raised the 23rd Light Dragoons, then called "Fullarton's Light Horse." It was of him that Burns wrote :—

> "Brydon's brave Ward I well could spy,
> Beneath old Scotia's smiling eye;
> Who called on fame, low standing by,
> To hand him on,
> Where mony a Patriot-name on high
> And hero shone."

The "Brydon" referred to was Fullarton's tutor and companion on an early continental tour. In 1801 Col. Fullarton was appointed Governor of the Isle of Trinidad. He died in London on 13th February, 1808.

Patrick Douglas of Garallan, a surgeon and shareholder in the Douglas and Heron Bank, succeeded to the family estate in 1776, and purchased a property in Jamaica, which was superintended by his brother Charles. It was to this estate that Burns

intended emigrating, having been offered the situation of book keeper by Charles at a salary of £30 per year for three years. Burns accepted it, but had not the necessary passage money, and was too proud to borrow. At this crisis Gavin Hamilton advised him to publish his poems, which resulted in the Kilmarnock edition. Charles Douglas died in Jamaica. Patrick, who was to the last a great admirer of Burns, died in 1819.

Rev. William M'Gill, D.D., educated at Glasgow University, was ordained minister in Ayr in 1761. In 1786 he published "A practical essay on the death of Jesus Christ, in two parts, containing first the history and then the doctrine of His death." This essay received great censure, and on 5th November, 1788, Rev. William Peebles, minister of Newton-on-Ayr, denounced it as heretical. Dr M'Gill published a defence, and in May, 1789, an enquiry into the case by the local Presbytery was ordered by the General Assembly. On 14th April, 1790, Dr M'Gill offered the Provincial Synod certain explanations, which were unanimously accepted by the Court. It was regarding this discussion that Burns wrote "The Kirk's Alarm." Dr M'Gill died 30th March, 1807.

Mrs Frances Anna Dunlop, born at Craigie, in Ayrshire (related to Sir William Wallace), was one of Burns's truest lady friends, and one who influenced him greatly for his good. She had been given a copy of his Kilmarnock edition by a friend, and wrote to Burns expressing her admiration of his work. She also subscribed for six copies of his volume. Burns long corresponded with Mrs Dunlop after this; and in a letter dated Edinburgh, 15th January, 1787, he thus wrote to her: "My heart glows with a wish to do justice to the merits of the saviour of his country, which sooner or later I shall at least attempt." The result of this attempt was the ode "Scots wha hae." Mrs Dunlop died 24th May, 1815.

Robert Alexander Oswald of Auchencruive, M.P. for Ayrshire, was born in 1771, and in 1793 married Louisa, daughter of Wynell Johnston, Esq. of Hilton-on-Merse. It was in honour of this beautiful and accomplished woman that Burns wrote:—

"O, wat ye wha's in yon town,
Ye see the e'enin' sun upon?
The fairest dame's in yon town,
That e'enin' sun is shinin' on."

Mrs Oswald died at Lisbon in 1797.

General Stewart was proprietor of Stair for some time, and during the family's residence there Burns became acquainted with Mrs Stewart, an acquaintance which soon ripened into friendship. Mrs Stewart, who was the heiress of Afton Lodge, where she afterwards stayed, was a lady of high accomplishments and poetic tastes. She has been erroneously made the heroine of "Sweet Afton."

John Wilson, publisher of the Kilmarnock edition, was born in 1759, and started business in 1780. In 1803 he went to Ayr, and with his brother Peter founded the first Ayrshire newspaper—the *Ayr Advertiser*. He became a magistrate, and died 6th May, 1821. He left a small mortification to Kilmarnock for the education of poor scholars.

Mr Paterson, a teacher in Ayr, was also a friend of the Poet. He was first intimate with William Burness and his wife, and his friendship extended to their family. On his death his wife continued the friendly intercourse and lent Burns books, among which was "Pope's Translation of Homer."

This by no means exhausts the list of Burns's Ayr friends, but the instances given show that Burns could make friends and keep them. The sincerity and faithfulness of his friendships are indisputable, and many noble men and women admired him then, and admire him still, not for his genius alone, but because he was

"Of all poets, the most a man."

ELIZABETH W. INGRAM.

JOSEPH TRAIN, F.S.A., SCOT., AS A FREEMASON.

[Addendum to Article on Joseph Train, *Burns Chronicle*, No. XIII., 1904.]

The History of Ayr St. Paul's Lodge of Freemasons, recently published, reveals the previously unknown fact that the antiquarian friend of Sir Walter Scott was in his youth an ardent Mason. The Ayrshire and Renfrewshire Militia, of which Train was a volunteer, contained Freemasons from various Lodges, and in 1799 a movement to institute a Lodge in connection with the regiment was begun at Dunbar, and the minutes of its earlier meetings record the successive headquarters :—

Dunbar— . . . 1799.

Linlithgow—2nd February, 1799.

Stirling—2nd May, 1799. when Joseph Train was initiated a member.

Stirling—November, 1799, when Joseph Train was passed and raised.

Fort-George—21st August, 1800, when Joseph Train became Depute-Secretary, Captain G. Clarke, the Adjutant, being Secretary.

Inverness—3rd September, 1801.

Stirling—10th November, 1801.

Glasgow—14th January, 1802, and back to

Ayr—26th April, 1802, where, owing to the signing of the Treaty of Amiens, the regiment was disbanded.

Ayr—5th August, 1802, "the most important office requiring to be filled up being that of Junior Warden, to which Bro Joseph Train was elected 2nd December, 1802.—Joseph Train, Senior Warden, 11th April, 1803." "Bro. Joseph Train put on his trial for having left the lodge meeting without

leave to withdraw, and without putting one in his place, he being Senior Warden. Having heard parties they (the lodge) considered that Bro. Train's conduct formerly speaks strongly for him yet to stop such abuse . . . they are of opinion that Bro. Train ask pardon publicly in open lodge."

May, 1803.—Bro. Train asked pardon, when the brethren forgave him.

June, 1803.—On the occasion of the resignation of the Right Worshipful Master, Bro. Train was appointed to fill the chair.

27th December, 1805.—St. John's Night. "After the installation of new office-bearers, had dinner, then walked with torch-light procession through the town along with the other Lodges, afterwards returning to their own Lodge-room. During the evening the Right Worshipful Master (John Laughlan, son of the Tyler, John Laughlan, 'Soutar Johnnie')* moved a vote of thanks to Bro. Joseph Train, late Master of the Lodge, for his steady and good conduct to the concerns of this Lodge, both internal and external, whilst he had the honour of presiding over them." He further moved "that the Stewards of this Lodge should go round the room with the terms *Worthy* or *Not Worthy*, when *Worthy* and *Most Worthy* was reached from every quarter of the Lodge. Ayr St. Paul, No. 271, cannot allow this opportunity to pass without giving Bro. Joseph Train that share of merit which is due to him as a man in his private character, but particularly whilst in the official capacity of Master of the Lodge for nearly three years which he governed with credit to himself and honour to the Lodge. His merit will be best described by the unprecedented prosperity of this Lodge whilst under his protection. Ayr St. Paul, wishing to testify their esteem for Bro. Train, do return him their most sincere and hearty thanks, hoping that they are not the only persons who shall judge of his good conduct, but from the prompt, steady manner which he has taken for the good of this body, cannot fail to hand his name with honour to the latest posterity."

* The Ayr rival of John Davidson, of Kirkoswald, for the honour.—[Ed.]

No other business coming before the Lodge, it was closed in due form. (Signed) JOHN LAUGHLAN.

27th December, 1806.—St. John's Night. Joseph Train was presented with a medal, which, according to the Treasurer's accounts, cost 15s 6d.

It also comes out that during his term of office he endeavoured to induce the members to form a library in connection with the Lodge, but met with little success. He joined the Excise in 1808, and in the Treasurer's account for 1809 we find the suggestive entry: "Joseph Train, two bottles of punch, 2s." This was doubtless the cost of the "send-off" to Bro. Train when he started to hunt for whisky stills at Aberfeldy. For a whole company of jolly Freemasons this was not a *deadly* item, when "Soutar Johnnie's" dinner and toddy alone cost 5s.

I have communicated with the Secretaries of the Lodges which were in existence in Train's time at the various places where he was stationed during his subsequent life, and no trace can be found of his having even visited any of these Lodges.

JOHN S. THOMSON.

CONTEMPORARY VIEWS OF BURNS.

EIGHTY years ago Lockhart suggested that a collection of the tributes paid to Burns since his death by poets of good standing would form a noble monument to his memory. Even then such a collection would have formed a not inconsiderable volume; but how much greater would the collection be to-day when there exists such an accumulation of appreciations and tributes paid to the Bard of Scotland, not only by poets, but by statesmen, artists, soldiers, preachers, critics, and literary men and women of various degrees, nations, and languages? Not one—not a dozen volumes—but a library would it take to contain such a compilation! This huge undertaking being prohibitive, something on a smaller scale seemed more feasible. The next best thing was to select the gems—striking utterances, characteristic or suggestive sentences—from the great array of writings and orations in which Burns, his works, and his genius have been described or appreciated. The present collection of appreciations limits itself to the references which contemporaries have made to the Poet and his works. It makes no claim to completeness. Some of the testimonies here given have come down to us indirectly. Many of the men and women quoted below were intimate with Burns, or were numbered in his extensive circle of correspondents; and not a few of the quotations throw interesting side-lights on the life or the character of the Poet. No poetical appreciations have been included.

HIS FAMILY.

Whoever may live to see it, something extraordinary will come from that boy!

WILLIAM BURNESS, to his Wife.

He never was that slave to drinking which has been represented.

GILBERT BURNS.

He was as a father to me, and any knowledge of the Scriptures I had in my youth I derived from his teaching.

MRS BEGG (ISABELLA BURNS).

He used to read the Bible to William, Francis, and Robert; and William was in the habit of remarking after his death, "Mother, I can't see those sublime things in the Bible that my father used to see."

MRS ROBERT BURNS (JEAN ARMOUR).

With Robert Burns, the poet's eldest son, I got acquainted at Dumfries. . . . Being ten years old when his father died, he remembered him distinctly. In the family library were included the works of the principal English poets, and his father encouraged him to read them. But my informant did not know, during his father's life-time, that he had himself composed verses, and at first could not comprehend what it meant when so many persons spoke to his mother about "the poet." Burns sought no celebrity in his household.

CHARLES ROGERS, LL.D.,
Leaves from my Autobiography.

Mr James T. Fields met one of the sons of Burns in London in 1859, and asked him what made on him, as a boy, the deepest impression of his father's personality. He replied, "The sympathetic tone of his voice whenever he spoke to any poor person, any one poorer and more suffering than himself.

MRS FIELDS, *A Shelf of Old Books.*

Wherever the sons of Burns have gone . . . they have always been received with the greatest enthusiasm.

COL. WILLIAM NICOL BURNS,
at Dumfries, Jan. 25, 1859.

As a leal and true Scot and a warm admirer of the genius of the Bard, I have joined in doing honour to his memory.

COL. JAMES GLENCAIRN BURNS,
at Edinburgh, Jan. 25, 1859.

FRIENDS AND ACQUAINTANCES.

My very apt pupil, and . . . agreeable companion.

WILLIAM MURDOCH (The Poet's Teacher).

An excellent French scholar, and, what few knew, [Burns] could relish and appreciate the odes of Horace.

DR JOHN THOMSON, Pamphlet on Education.

It came under my own view professionally, that he superintended the education of his children with a degree of care that I have never seen surpassed by any parent in any rank of life whatever.

JAMES GRAY (Teacher of Burns's Sons).

He had a lairge leebrary, and he read ony books that cam' in his way ; in fac' he was aye readin'.

WILLIE PATRICK (Herd at Mossgiel).

Some book or other he always carried, and read when not otherwise employed.

DAVID SILLAR.

The Poet acted as treasurer, librarian, and censor to the little [Monkland Book] Society, who will long have a grateful sense of his public spirit and exertions for their improvement and information.

CAPTAIN ROBERT RIDDELL.

I am old enough to have known . . . peasant farmers who . . . had all known Burns and had occasionally met him . . . on market days at Kilmarnock, and . . . none of them—I have often heard them say—ever heard him utter an oath, saw him angry, or saw him intoxicated.

A. B. TODD'S *Reminiscences of a Long Life.*

I have heard my father say that Burns had the handsomest cast of the hand in sowing corn he ever saw on a furrowed field.

ALLAN CUNNINGHAM.

He was a kind and indulgent master.

WILLIAM CLARK (Ploughman).

. . . Robert Burns, whose general talents are no less conspicuous than the poetic powers which have done so much honour to the country in which he was born.

COLONEL WILLIAM FULLARTON.

Bring me Burns's books. It always does me good to see them ; they shew me that a warm, kind-hearted man may be a diligent and honest officer.

JOHN MAXWELL of Terraughty.

The superintendence of his behaviour as an officer of the excise was a branch of my especial province. . . . He was exemplary in his attention, and was even jealous of the least imputation on his vigilance.

ALEXANDER FINDLATER (Supervisor).

He was a strong, manly-lookin' chap ; nane o' your shilpit, milk-and-water dandies, but a sterling substantial fellow, wha widna ha'e feared the deil suppose he had met him.

SAUNDERS PROUDFOOT.

I remember him well. . . . He always appeared to be formed for the most enchanting lover in the world.*

CHARLES KIRKPATRICK SHARPE.

* For notes on Burns's personal appearance by C. K. Sharpe see *Burns Chronicle*, No. XVI., 1906.

I have seen many a handsome man in my time, but none of them equalled Robbie Burns. I never saw such a pair of eyes as flashed from under his forehead.

MRS BASIL MONTAGU.

As to his personal appearance, it is very much in his favour. He is a genteel-looking young man, of good address, and talks with much propriety, as if he had received an academical education.

BISHOP SKINNER.

His manners were . . . simple, manly, and independent; strongly expressive of conscious genius and worth, but without anything that indicated forwardness, arrogance, or vanity.

PROFESSOR DUGALD STEWART.

Sir Gilbert Elliot, afterwards Lord Minto, regarded his refinement as more wonderful than his genius.

[CHARLES ROGERS, LL.D.]

In conversation Burns was powerful: his conceptions and expressions were of corresponding vigour, and on all subjects were as remote as possible from commonplace.

PROFESSOR JOSIAH WALKER.

It has been my fortune to know some men of high reputation in literature, as well as in public life; but never to meet one who, in the course of a single interview, communicated to me so strong an impression of the force and versatility of his talents.

WILLIAM CURRIE, M.D.

I have been in the company of many men of genius, some of them poets; but never witnessed such flashes of intellectual brightness as from him, the impulse of a moment—flashes of celestial fire.

JOHN RAMSAY of Ochtertyre.

Burns was one of the most extraordinary men I ever met with; his poetry surprised me very much, his prose surprised me still more, and his conversation surprised me more than both his poetry and his prose.

PRINCIPAL ROBERTSON.

For originality of wit, rapidity of conception, and fluency of nervous phraseology, he was unrivalled.

WILLIAM GRIERSON.

There was never a sentiment or expression that fell from his lips which did not gild my imagination, while it warmed my heart.

JOHN COMMELIN.

He exerted his gift of eloquence . . . to relieve the necessities of the poor.

ROBERT GOWDIE.

Drollery, mirth of every kind, frolic, and even practical joking, . . . were natural to him.

WILLIAM REID.

He was unco by-ordinar' engagin' in his talk.

MRS NELLY MILLER.

I never could fancy that Burns had ever followed the rustic occupation of the plough, because everything he said had a grace, fulness, and charm that was in an extraordinary degree engaging.

MISS JEFFREY.

Even the proud and the titled felt themselves awed into respect by the high bearing of the peasant poet.

JOHN SYME.

The town is at present agog with the ploughman poet, who receives adulation with native dignity, and is the very figure of his profession ; . . . but has a heart of the most enthusiastic LOVE.

MRS ALISON COCKBURN, Dec. 30, 1786.

We have got a poet in town just now . . . a ploughman from Ayrshire—a man of unquestionable genius who has produced admirable verses. . . . He is a fellow of strong common sense.

PROFESSOR ANDREW DALZELL, Jan. 25, 1787.

The Duchess of Gordon said . . . she never met with a man whose conversation carried her so completely off her feet.

ALLAN CUNNINGHAM'S *Life of Burns.*

He had a fine pair o' een, lairge, dark, lustrous—for a' the world like lowin' coals—that glower'd as if they'd pierce ye thro' and thro'.

MRS MARION HUNTER.

His voice alone could improve upon the magic of his eye; sonorous, replete with the finest modulations, it alternately captivated the ear with the melody of poetic numbers, the perspicuity of nervous reasoning, or the ardent sallies of enthusiastic patriotism.

MRS MARIA RIDDELL.

His discrimination of character was great beyond that of any person I ever knew.

JOHN MACKENZIE, M.D.

During the visit to Dumfries I was introduced to Robert Burns, who treated me with great kindness.

PROFESSOR ALEX. MURRAY, D.D.

The more I knew him the more I admired him.

HENRY MACMINN.

They know him but imperfectly who know him only through his works, delightful though they are.

ROBERT AINSLIE, W.S.

. . . The first of bards, and . . . one of the best of men.

MRS DUNLOP of Dunlop.

Once at a meeting of ministers and elders, some of them began to denounce Burns's works as immoral. "I tell you what," said Archibald Prentice, "if you had a' his ill, and the hauf o' his guid amang ye, ye'd a' be better men than you are."

Related by DR THOMAS SOMERVILLE.

He is the first poet in our island. There is an infinity of genius in his "Tam o' Shanter."

JOHN MOORE, M.D.

Where materials would have been wanting to almost every other mortal, [Burns] like an electric kite, soars aloft, and draws down etherial fire from heaven.

WILLIE NICOL.

My father [Rev. Archibald Alison] . . . was so impressed with his genius while he was yet unknown to fame, that he kept the original copy of "Auld Lang Syne," which the bard gave him, till it literally fell to pieces in his waistcoat.

SIR ARCH. ALISON'S *Autobiography*.

There is a pathos and delicacy in his serious poems, a vein of wit and humour in those of a more festive turn, which cannot be too much admired; and I think I shall never open the book without feeling my astonishment renewed and increased.

REV. THOMAS BLACKLOCK, D.D.

. . . A farmer's son, remarkable for a genuine vein of Doric poetry, and for his superior abilities and good sense, which have enabled him to escape the shipwreck of the sons of Apollo, by continuing his profession of a farmer.

EARL OF BUCHAN.

To my ingenious friend, Mr Robert Burns, I have been variously obligated. He was not only at the pains of making out what was most worthy of notice in Ayrshire, but he also wrote, expressly for this work, the pretty tale annexed to Alloway Church.

FRANCIS GROSE,
Antiquities of Scotland, 1790.

Owing to the exertions of the late celebrated Scottish Bard, the work has been enlarged far beyond what was originally expected. . . . To him is the present collection indebted for almost all those excellent pieces which it contains.

JAMES JOHNSON,
The Scots Musical Museum, 1796.

Our great National Poet . . . in the most liberal and cordial manner, undertook to write a large proportion of the songs wanting. He performed what he promised in a manner that transcended the most sanguine expectations of the Editor.

GEORGE THOMSON,
Collection of the Songs of Burns, &c., 1822.

SOME CORRESPONDENCE.

I rejoice to hear of your rising fame, and I wish and expect it may tower still higher by this new publication.

REV. GEORGE LAWRIE, D.D.

The success you have met with I do not think was beyond your merits.

PROFESSOR HUGH BLAIR, D.D.

One lesson of virtue and morality delivered in your amusing style, and from such as you, will operate more than dozens would do from such as me.

REV. JOHN SKINNER.

Your disinterested friendship has made an impression which time cannot efface.

JAMES CLARKE (Teacher).

"Highland Mary" is most enchantingly pathetic, and "Duncan Gray" possesses native genuine humour.

"Spak o' lowpin' ower a linn,"

is a line of itself that should make you immortal.

HON. ANDREW ERSKINE.

I have seldom in my life tasted of higher enjoyment from any work of genius than I have received from this composition ["Tam o' Shanter"]; and I am much mistaken if this poem alone, had you never written another syllable, would not have been sufficient to have transmitted your name down to posterity with high reputation.

A. F. TYTLER (Lord Woodhouselee).

He [Adam Smith] was one of those that first held forth your name forcibly to the public at Edinburgh, when very few had seen your Book; and my son told me was the person he heard take the most interest in your future prospects, wishing to procure you leisure to write, which he said was all you wanted to assure your figure and fortune.

MRS DUNLOP of Dunlop.

Some Youths.

I first knew the Poet when attending Mr Murdoch's school at Ayr. . . . The intellectual gifts of Burns, even at this time, greatly impressed me—more than he afterwards did by his published verses.

—— Tennant (of Ayr).

The face and look of Robert Burns were such as, either *boy* or *man*, I never could forget.

George Bremner.

I can never forget the animation and glorious intelligence of his countenance, the rich, deep tones of his musical voice, and those matchless eyes, which absolutely appeared to flash fire, and stream forth rays of living light. It was not conversation I heard: it was an outburst of noble sentiment, brilliant wit, and a flood of sympathy and goodwill to his fellowmen.

John Pattison.

While I write this, I behold him as distinctly as I did when I stood at my father's knee and heard the Bard repeat his "Tam o' Shanter." He was tall and of a manly make, his brow broad and high, and his voice varied with the character of his inimitable tale; yet through all its variations it was melody itself.

Allan Cunningham.

As for Burns, I may truly say *Virgilium vidi tantum*. I was a lad of fifteen . . . when he first came to Edinburgh. . . . There was a strong expression of sense and shrewdness in all his lineaments; the eye alone, I think, indicated the poetical character and temperament. It was large and of a dark cast, which glowed (I say literally *glowed*) when he spoke with feeling or interest. I never saw such another eye in a human head, though I have seen the most distinguished men of my time.

Sir Walter Scott.

Early Reviews and Notices.

His observations on human characters are acute and sagacious, and his descriptions are lively and just. Of rustic pleasantry he has a rich fund; and some of his softer scenes are touched with inimitable delicacy.

James Sibbald, in *The Edinburgh Magazine*, October, 1786.

Whoever will read his lighter and more humorous poems . . . will perceive with what uncommon penetration and sagacity the heaven-taught ploughman has looked upon men and manners. . . . Burns possesses the spirit as well as the fancy of a Poet. That honest pride and independence of soul which are sometimes the Muse's only dower, break forth on every occasion in his works.

Henry Mackenzie, *The Lounger*, Edinburgh, Dec. 9, 1786.

His simple strains, artless and unadorned, seem to flow without effort from the native feelings of the heart. . . . His verses are sometimes struck off with a delicacy and artless simplicity that charm like the bewitching though irregular touches of a Shakespeare.

The Monthly Review, London, Dec., 1786.

We must admire the generous enthusiasm of his untutored muse, and bestow the tribute of just applause on one whose name will be transmitted to posterity with honour.

The Critical Review, *circa* 1786.

These Poems . . . possess uncommon excellence, whether we consider them as adorned with beautiful sentiment, picturesque imagery, or harmonious versification.

The Universal Magazine of Knowledge and Pleasure, May, 1787.

A natural poet of the first eminence.

JOSEPH RITSON,
"Historical Essay on Scottish Songs," 1794.

His works and his name can never die, while living divine Poesy shall agitate the chords of the human heart.

Dumfries Courier, July, 1796.

His poetical compositions, distinguished equally by the force of native humour, by the warmth and tenderness of passion, and by the glowing touches of a descriptive pencil, will remain a lasting monument of a mind guided only by the light of nature and the inspiration of genius.

London Herald, July 27, 1796.

His poetical productions were looked on as prodigies of genius. The whole literary world was taken by surprise. . . . From the cottage to the palace, nothing was heard but the praises of "Our Second Ramsay," "Our Second Fergusson"; nay, by some he was deemed greater than either of these poets.

ALEX. CAMPBELL,
"History of Poetry in Scotland," 1798.

In the last century, the poets Ramsay, . . . Fergusson, and Burns, all excelled in this versatile and indescribable quality [of humour].

DR JOHN LEYDEN,
"Scottish Descriptive Poems," 1803.

These productions of the Scottish Bard . . . may be considered as the wild-flowers of his muse, which, in the luxuriant vigour of his fancy, he scattered as he passed along.

R. H. CROMEK,
"Reliques of Robert Burns," 1808.

We think Burns entitled to the rank of a great and original genius. He has in all his compositions great force of conception, and a great spirit and animation in its expression. He has taken a large range through the region of Fancy, and naturalized himself in almost all her climates. He has great humour, great powers of description, great pathos, and great discrimination of character.

LORD JEFFREY in *The Edinburgh Review*, Jan., 1809.

No poet, with the exception of Shakespeare, ever possessed the power of exciting the most varied and discordant emotions with such rapid transitions. His humorous description of Death (in the poem on Dr Hornbook) borders on the terrific; the witches' dance in the Kirk of Alloway is at once ludicrous and horrible.

SIR WALTER SCOTT in *The Quarterly Review*, Feb., 1809

As to his beauties, . . . they are innumerable.

REV. EDWARD MANGIN,
"The Pleasures of Books," 1814.

To defend Burns's writings nowadays would, indeed, be as idle as, in the true spirit of knight-errantry, to fight with a windmill. His poems have triumphed over criticism—they need no defence; we only appeal to them.

ALEX. PETERKIN,
"A Review of the Life of Robert Burns," etc., 1815.

Burns is by far the greatest poet that ever sprung from the bosom of the people, and lived and died in an humble condition. Indeed, no country in the world but Scotland could have produced such a man; and he will be forever regarded as the glorious representative of the genius of his country. He was born a poet, if ever man was, and to his native genius alone is owing the perpetuity of his fame.

PROF. JOHN WILSON, in *Blackwood's Magazine*, May, 1828.

These [fabricated] stanzas are no more to be compared with the fine verses of Burns than the daubings of a sign-painter with the pictures of Raphael.

WILLIAM STENHOUSE,
Notes in *The Scots Musical Museum*, 1839.

HIS FIRST BIOGRAPHERS.

I can well remember how that even plough-boys and maid-servants would have gladly parted with the wages which they earned the most hardly, and which they wanted to purchase necessary clothing, if they might but procure the Works of Burns.

ROBERT HERON, 1797.

Few circumstances afford a more striking proof of the strength of Burns's genius than the general circulation of his poems in England, notwithstanding the dialect in which the greater part are written, and which might be supposed to render them here uncouth or obscure.

WILLIAM CURRIE, M.D., 1800.

He will continue to be read and admired so long as poetry is relished.

JOHN AIKIN, M.D., 1801.

A man whose native vigour of intellect elevated him far above the ordinary standard.

DAVID IRVING, LL.D., 1804.

He died poor, but not in debt; and left behind him a name, the fame of which will not soon be eclipsed.

ALEX. CHALMERS, M.A., F.S.A., 1804.

If the excellence of an author may be estimated by the frequency with which his sentiments are echoed in quotation . . . a high station among the poets has been assigned to Burns.

PROF. JOSIAH WALKER, 1811.

Burns died in the prime of life. Had he been spared till the play of the passions was over, it is probable he would have obtained a place in the Calendar of Saints.

REV. HAMILTON PAUL, 1819.

He was a steadfast friend and a good neighbour. While he lived at Ellisland few passed his door without being entertained at his table; and even when in poverty, on the Mill-hole brae, the poor seldom left his door but with blessings on their lips.

ALLAN CUNNINGHAM, 1834.

I shall always regard him as not only a great but a good man.

JAMES HOGG, 1836.

SOME ENGLISHMEN.

That northern phenomenon in the annals of poetry . . . in whom we discover the rare union of great simplicity and great knowledge of human nature.

ROBERT MONRO, M.A. (Oxon), 1790.

Let us . . . lose ourselves in sympathy with Burns.

VALENTINE LE GRICE.

Burns could array the morning, the noon, and the evening in new colours; could add new graces to female beauty, and new tenderness to the voice of love.

SIR SAMUEL EGERTON BRYDGES.

One of the few great geniuses who arise to illuminate the human mind.

WILLIAM MUDFORD.

In my early life I had a passionate fondness for the poetry of Burns. . . . Burns was the god of my idolatry.

CHARLES LAMB.

It was not until the appearance of . . . that Bard of Nature and of Love, that we could boast of a writer of eminent genius who had paid due attention to . . . lyric poetry.

NATHAN DRAKE.

Such a child of imagination as Burns.

ISAAC D'ISRAELI.

The hapless but incomparable Burns—the great Master of lyrical composition, in its present and most intelligible sense.

THOMAS FROGNALL DIBDIN.

I lament, I weep over the fate of one of the greatest genius[es] that Britain has ever known.

MARK NOBLE, F.S.A. (MS. Notes).

Edmund Kean spoke in unstinted terms in the praise of Burns, placing him above Byron, and only inferior to Shakespeare.

Notes in *Kilmarnock Standard*, Oct. 25, 1902.

Poor BURNS . . . one page of whose writings is worth more than a whole cart-load that has been written by WALTER SCOTT.

WILLIAM COBBETT.

The Ayrshire Colossus is still expanding outward and upward, in spite of all his detractors.

THOMAS DE QUINCEY.

He did not "create a soul under the ribs of death," by tinkling siren sounds, or by piling up centos of poetic diction; but for the artificial flowers of poetry he plucked the mountain daisy under his feet; and a field-mouse, hurrying from its ruined dwelling, could inspire him with the sentiments of terror and pity.

WILLIAM HAZZLITT.

SOME STATESMEN.

I can think of no verse since Shakespeare's, which comes so sweetly and at once from nature.

WILLIAM PITT.

Burns was about as clever a man as ever lived.

CHARLES JAMES FOX.

Lord Sidmouth thought him a better poet than Cowper.

TREVELYAN'S *Early Life of Charles James Fox.*

The sublime morality of Burns.

JOHN P. CURRAN.

Yesterday I found myself whimpering over Currie's account of the great and unfortunate Burns.

FRANCIS HORNER.

Of the . . . songs . . . there are some which I cannot help numbering among the happiest productions of human genius.

SIR JAMES MACKINTOSH.

After his great poetical genius, there is nothing so remarkable in Burns' history as the extraordinary refinement of his sentiments, and even of his taste, from his earliest years.

LORD BROUGHAM.

Scotland may exult in having given him birth, for he might almost be said to have sprung from her very soil.

EARL OF ABERDEEN.

THREE POETESSES.

His "Vision," the descriptive part of "The Winter's Night" . . the dear "Brigs of Ayr," the "Cottar's Saturday Night," the "Mouse," and the "Mountain Daisy," enchant me.

ANNA SEWARD, 1787.

The "Daisy," and the "Mouse" . . . I think are charming. The endearing diminutives, and the Doric rusticity of the dialect, suit such subjects extremely.

MRS BARBAULD, 1787.

Ask me of his genius!—I have not power to do justice to its vigour, extent, and versatility. His poetry shows him in a walk of superior excellence, while his correspondence proves him equal to anything.

MRS GRANT of Laggan, 1803.

SOME POETS.

The excellent Burns.

GOETHE.

Beranger . . . used to say that this ["A Man's a Man for a' That"] was a song, not for any age, but for eternity.

J. CUTHBERT HADDEN.

The rare art of . . . wedding verse in congenial union with melody . . . has . . . by him . . . been exercised with so workmanly a hand, as well as with so rich a variety of passion, playfulness, and power, as no song-writer, perhaps, but himself has ever yet displayed.

THOMAS MOORE.

That man stood up with the stamp of superior intellect on his brow; a visible greatness: and great and patriotic subjects would only have called into action the powers of his mind, which lay inactive while he played calmly and exquisitely the pastoral pipe.

ROBERT BLOOMFIELD.

The rank of Burns is the very first of his art.

LORD BYRON.

It is very singular that no true poet should have arisen from the lower classes, when it is considered that every peasant who can read knows more of books now than did Æschylus, Sophocles, or Homer; yet if we except Burns, none such have been.

SAMUEL TAYLOR COLERIDGE.

Read Burns's poems, and have read them twice: and though they be written in a language that is new to me, and many of them on subjects much inferior to the author's ability, I think them on the whole a very extraordinary production.

WILLIAM COWPER.

Of Burns he was ever as enthusiastic an admirer as the warmest of his countrymen.

Life of George Crabbe, by his Son.

How much more respectable human nature appears in our eyes after reading Burns, than after reading Byron!

EBENEZER ELLIOT.

In Burns there is no waste of words out of an ill-shouldered sack; no troublesome running backward and forward of little, idle, ragged ideas; no ostentation of sentiment in the surtout of selfishness.

WALTER SAVAGE LANDOR.

I think his "Cottar's Saturday Night" the finest pastoral in any language.

SAMUEL ROGERS.

It is probable that he would have proved a still greater poet, if by strength of reason, he could have controlled the propensities which his sensibility engendered; but he would have been a poet of a different class; and certain it is, had that double restraint been early established, many peculiar beauties which enrich his verses could never have existed, and many accessory influences which contribute greatly to their effect, would have been wanting.

WILLIAM WORDSWORTH.

The poet of the heart is the poet of mankind.

SIR ALEXANDER BOSWELL.

Into "Tam o' Shanter" he has poured the whole witchery of song—humorous, gay, gloom, terrific, and sublime.

THOMAS CAMPBELL.

The harp of the north had not been swept for centuries by a hand so forcible, and at the same time so varied that it awakened every tone, whether of joy or woe.

ALLAN CUNNINGHAM.

He has built monuments on the high places, and they who follow can only hope to leave behind them some far humbler memorials.

JAMES HOGG.

It was on the open field, under the cope of heaven, this poetical Franklin caught his lightnings from the cloud . . . and he communicated them, too, by a touch, with electrical swiftness and effect.

JAMES MONTGOMERY.

Long life to thy fame, and peace to thy soul, Robert Burns!

SIR WALTER SCOTT.

A. C. WHITE.

THE MISSING RAEBURN PORTRAIT.

IN a catalogue issued by William Brown, bookseller, Edinburgh, in 1903 (No. 146), there was offered for sale :—

"Three signed Autograph Letters of Sir Henry Raeburn, dated 14th Nov., 1803 : 11th Dec., 1803 ; and 22nd Feb., 1804 ; also a bill drawn by Sir H. Raeburn upon Messrs Cadell & Davies for £21 in payment of a portrait of Burns which he painted from the original portrait by Nasmyth, and the shipping company's receipt for the case containing the portrait, which was sent from Leith—5 items in all."

The last-named document is in the following terms :—

"Union Shipping Company's Office,
"Leith, Nov. 30th, 1803.

"Received on board the Union Shipping Company's smack *Sprightly*, James Taylor, master, for London, one case marked, as per margin, 'Cadell & Davies, London,' which I promise to deliver at Miller's Wharf, all and every the dangers and accidents of the seas and navigation, of whatever nature and kind soever excepted. J. RUNNISON."

The letter of 11th December is as follows :—

"York Place, Edinburgh.

"Gentlemen, I enclose you a receipt for a case containing Burns's portrait, and I have no doubt you will get it soon and safe, and I flatter myself with the hope of its meeting with your approbation, than which, I assure you, nothing will give me more pleasure.

"I have twenty guineas for a portrait the size of Burns's. I do not wish you to remit the money to me, for, as I have money to pay in London, I shall, after receiving your permission, draw upon you for the amount.—I am, with much respect, Gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

"HENRY RAEBURN."

From the letters of 14th November, 1803, and 22nd February, 1804, we give the following extracts :—

"I have finished a copy of Burns the Poet from the original portrait painted by Mr Nasmyth. I have shown it to Mr Cunningham, who thinks it very like him."

"Nothing could be more gratifying to me than the approbation you expressed of the copy I made for you of Robert Burns."

The following is the history of these documents, so far as known to the writer. When we were engaged on the "Earnock MSS.," which, through the kindness of the late Sir John Watson, were printed in the *Chronicle*, a catalogue of the same was forwarded to us by Mr E. Barrington Nash, artist, London, which he had compiled on February 26th, 1889, when the bound volumes containing the documents were passing from the hands of Robson & Kerslake into the possession of J. W. Bouton, bookseller, Broadway, New York. One of the entries in said catalogue bears that "Twenty-one letters by Currie, Cunningham, G. & W. Thomson, Alex. Chalmers, *H. Raeburn*, Ainslie, Beugo, Gray, and Suttaby" were included in the collection. Apparently the letters remained in America till the date of the Glasgow Burns Exhibition in 1896, when they again crossed the Atlantic, and latterly became the property of Sir John Watson of Earnock. When they were entrusted to us for publication we found no trace of any letters by Raeburn, though we observed a good many blanks on the inlaid pages as if some of the contents had been removed. At the sale of the Craibe Angus Burnsiana, which took place in Dowell's Rooms, Edinburgh, in December, 1902, item 477 of the catalogue is in these words :—

"Raeburn (Sir Henry), Three MS. Letters, dated 1803-4, to Cadell & Davies, publishers, London, relating to a Portrait of Burns, painted to their order; also Union Shipping Co.'s Receipt for 'Case containing Burns' Portrait,' and Bill drawn on Cadell & Davies by Raeburn."

The writer saw these documents in Edinburgh, but as they were enclosed in a glass case he had no opportunity of handling them. It was at this sale, if we mistake not, that they were purchased by Mr. Brown, who, no doubt, will be able to give further information regarding them.

It is therefore beyond doubt that Raeburn painted a portrait of Burns, the evidences of the fact having passed from Cadell & Davies to Robson & Kerslake, from the latter to J. W. Bouton, New York, and from that gentleman to Mr Brown, by purchase at the Craibe Angus sale in 1902. And it is equally clear that the portrait referred to was a copy of the Nasmyth, and not an

original Raeburn, as has been sometimes asserted. That the portrait arrived safely in London is borne out by the terms of the letter of February, 1804, which is evidently a reply to a communication acknowledging receipt and approval of the work. What became of it afterwards is not known, but the probability is that it remained in the possession of Cadell & Davies down to 1823. In that year the following advertisement appeared in a 3 vol. edition of Burns published by Cadell:—

"Lately published by T. Cadell, Strand, London, the Works of Robert Burns, with an account of his Life and a criticism on his Writings. . . . . Elegantly printed in 4 vols., 8vo, with the portrait of the Author from an original picture by Raeburn."

In the previous Currie editions the portrait is an engraving of the Nasmyth by Neagle, and in the edition advertised (the eighth, that to which Gilbert Burns contributed additions), it is, strange to say, an engraving after Nasmyth by W. F. Fry. The "original picture by Raeburn" did not appear in engraved or any other form, and no reason is given for the substitution. We are, therefore, left to guess whether the Raeburn referred to had been damaged or had disappeared, or whether the publishers hesitated to discredit the Neagle presentment, for doubtless the Raeburn necessitated a wide departure from its vulgar lines on the part of the engraver. All that we know for certain is that Raeburn's canvas was not utilised. It may have been relegated, for aught we know, to the printer's lumber-room, sold with the rubbish, and consigned to the damp cellar of some "ole clo'" depôt. Chance, however, may have preserved it, and the probability of unearthing it in some odd corner of London should act as a stimulant to all searchers after art treasure trove. It would be interesting in the highest degree to Scotsmen to see how our greatest portrait painter treated the features of our greatest poet even under the disadvantage of interpreting another man's effort in the same direction.

That this was not the only instance in which Raeburn worked upon the Nasmyth portrait is substantiated by a letter from George Thomson to Robert Chambers, dated August, 1850,

and first published in the *Life of George Thomson*, by Mr J. Cuthbert Hadden (1898). Discussing the question of a portrait for the Chambers edition, Mr Thomson writes :—

"I consider my oil painting of him to be the best extant. It is a duplicate painted by Alexander Nasmyth from the one he painted from the life for the Poet's family ; but my duplicate had the peculiar advantage of passing through the hands of my kind and highly-talented friend Sir Henry Raeburn, who, on my solicitation, did me the great favour of revising and retouching the face in my own presence, and gave much of that lustre to the eyes which I well remember in the living man, and upon which I could not help gazing during the only day I ever had the pleasure of dining in his delightful company at Mr James Simpson's, bookseller."

This is explicit on two hitherto disputed points—that Raeburn's pencil accounts for the difference observable in the features of the Thomson-Nasmyth, now in the National Gallery, London, when compared with the original in the National Gallery, Princes Street, Edinburgh, and with the Auchendrane replica, now the property of Lord Rosebery; and whether Thomson ever saw Burns in the flesh. On the latter point we have further testimony. We quote again from the volume referred to :—

"In the sixth volume of *Hogg's Instructor* (1851, p. 409) there is a long letter from his (Thomson's) pen to which he adds the following postscript :—'The charms of Burns's conversation may well make us regret that he was not, like Johnson, attended by a Boswell. I speak from experience, for I once had the delight to dine in a small party with him.'"

Thomson was advanced in years when he penned these lines, but it is scarce believable that his memory was playing tricks with him on such an important subject as his connection with Burns. The first quotation may also be held as finally settling the question as to whether Raeburn ever painted an original portrait of the Bard, for, if he had had a painting by himself to fall back upon, it is extremely unlikely that he would have taken the Nasmyth as his model. The ground has been so often traversed by other writers that we need not recapitulate the facts. Suffice it to say that Raeburn was in Rome in 1786-87, and although he had returned to Edinburgh by the end of the latter year, the circumstances which prompted a portrait of the Poet had passed away, and there is not a tittle of evidence to show

that the two ever came into personal contact. We are aware that Mr Barrington Nash, artist, London, has recovered two canvases which he conscientiously believes to be veritable portraits of the Poet by Raeburn, and some of our readers will doubtless recollect the paper read by Mr Nash in support of their pretensions to an assembly of Burnsians, when they were on view at the Glasgow Burns Exhibition in 1896. That article was afterwards published in pamphlet form by Gardner, of Paisley (1896), to which we refer the curious for further information. Mr Nash has certainly convinced himself of the anthenticity of the portraits in his possession, but to convince others requires more than mere enthusiasm, gentlemanly demeanour, and personal sincerity. The larger canvas is a portrait of somebody, meritorious enough to rank in some respects as a Raeburn, but the features are more like those of a smug country squire than those of the traditional Burns. The other is a poor production, both from the portrait and artistic points of view.

EDITOR.

ROBERT BURNS.

25th January, 1908.

Again the cherished day comes round,
When Scotsmen everywhere are found
Rejoicing in the name
Of Burns, whose intellectual power
Stands steadfast like a massive tower
Upon the Mosque of Fame.

Go mark him in his golden prime,
How deep, pathetic, and sublime
Those brilliant strains which flowed
From him who struck his country's lyre
With all the fierce and fervid fire
Which in his bosom glowed !

And still how gentle was each thought,
With heavenly inspiration fraught,
To stir the feeling soul :
Where is his peer for matchless skill,
To strike those wondrous chords at will,
Which human hearts control ?

JOHN DRAKE,
Poet Laureate, Burns Federation.

IN MEMORIAM:

DAVID MURRAY, M.A., B.Sc., PRESIDENT OF THE FEDERATION.

IT is with feelings of the profoundest sorrow that we have to record the death of Mr David Murray, M.A., B.Sc., the highly-accomplished and much-esteemed Rector of Kilmarnock Academy, and President of the Burns Federation. The sad event came as a great shock to the community and to the Burns clubs everywhere. During the first few days of his illness there was no reason to anticipate anything of a serious nature, but alarming symptoms thereafter manifested themselves, and finally it was found that he was suffering from an acute attack of enteric fever. In spite of all that medical skill could do, his strength gradually failed, and the end came on Thursday evening, the fifth day of December, 1907.

Deceased was a native of Kilmarnock, being a son of Mr John Murray, of Messrs Glenfield & Kennedy, Ltd. He received his early education at Kilmarnock Academy, where his teachers recognised in him a lad of exceptional promise, and his subsequent career fully justified their expectations. In the examination for entrance to Glasgow University he stood seventeenth on the list of distinguished students. During his University course he was a strenuous worker, and the success which attended his efforts may be to some extent judged by the fact that his honours included the Browne Bursary; first prize in senior Greek class; Lorimer scholarship in Mathematics; third prize in Middle Mathematics; sixth on the first-class list of Senior Mathematics; first prize in English Literature; second prize in voluntary work of English Literature class; first prize in Natural Philosophy; first prize in Practical Physics; Metcalfe scholarship in Mathematics and Natural Philosophy; the medal and first-class certificate in Geology; second in first-class Chemis-

try; and first prize in Astronomy; besides the degrees of Master of Arts and Bachelor of Science. At the close of his University curriculum, on the recommendation of Sir William Thomson (the late Lord Kelvin), of whom he was a favourite pupil, he was offered but declined the appointment of Professor of Physics in M'Gill College, Montreal. Mr Murray subsequently took three summer courses at the Royal School of Mines, South Kensington, in Chemistry, Heat, and Light respectively, and obtained first-class certificates for the practical work done in each. A summer session at Cambridge under the University Extension Classes (Oxford and Cambridge) gave him experience of laboratory work in Chemistry and Electricity. His training in Science and scientific method was therefore quite exceptional, and in pursuance of a desire for all-round efficiency, in addition to private studies he occasionally resided abroad, where he strengthened his knowledge of French and German Literature. His first appointment was that of Assistant Mathematical Master in Greenock Academy, and shortly afterwards he transferred his services to Dunfermline High School, where he filled the position of Assistant Science and Mathematical Master. In 1886 he returned to Kilmarnock, and for ten years he was Mathematical Master in the Academy under Dr Dickie. His labours in this department were attended with excellent results, his practical work in the class-room being exceedingly effective, and many of the pupils who passed through his hands gave admirable proof of the good foundations which he had laid by their subsequent University successes. When the Rectorship of the Academy became vacant through the retiral of Dr Dickie, in September, 1904, Mr Murray was appointed to the highest position in the service of the Board. The wisdom of this appointment was more than justified by results. The Academy has been thoroughly equipped in accordance with the most recent educational developments, and the past year's reports of H.M. Inspectors are considered the most satisfactory that have ever been received. Alike as teacher, disciplinarian, and organiser, Mr Murray was remarkably successful, and he has undoubtedly left an impress for good on many of the rising generation.

Outside of his own profession Mr Murray took an active and useful part in public affairs—most notably perhaps in connection with the Glenfield Ramblers' Society, whose prosperity has been in large measure due to his untiring exertions. In the early days

The late DAVID MURRAY.

of its existence, when the membership was small, and when the services of lecturers were not so easily obtainable as now, Mr Murray was a tower of strength to the Ramblers, not only by giving them of the best he had himself to bestow, but in enlisting the help of others as lecturers or guides in rambles to places of interest. He was an honorary President of the Society and for a time he acted as their correspondent, in which capacity he contri-

buted to the newspapers many interesting articles on the Ramblers' outings. Mr Murray evinced a keen interest in the Public Library. He was a warm supporter of the movement for the adoption of the Public Libraries Act, and was for several years one of the ratepayers' representatives to the committee. He rendered invaluable assistance in arranging and classifying the splendid geological collection of the late Mr James Thomson, F.G.S., as also the unique collection of curios of the late Dr Hunter-Selkirk, of Braidwood, when these treasures were gifted to the community for the enrichment of the Museum in the Dick Institute. Mr Murray was an ardent admirer of the National Bard and a keen student of his works. He was a past President of the Kilmarnock Burns Club, and the members still remember the brilliant address he delivered from the chair. He took a prominent part in the affairs of the Burns Federation, and about fourteen months ago, after the death of Provost Mackay, he was chosen by the Executive to fill the position of President, an appointment which at the recent annual meeting in Sunderland was unanimously confirmed. In this connection Mr Murray warmly interested himself in the movement, initiated some years ago by the late Dr Freeland, of Glasgow, for the foundation of a Chair of Scottish Literature in Glasgow University, and, along with Mr D. M'Naught, Kilmaurs, and Mr Thomas Amos, M.A., he visited numerous Burns Clubs throughout the country with the view of advancing that scheme and securing financial support on its behalf. He also rendered similar service in aid of the fund for the preservation of the Auld Brig of Ayr. A local society of an unostentatious but very useful nature in which Mr Murray showed considerable interest was the Old Holm Callans' Benevolent Society. For a time he was its President, and the philanthropic work which it carried on in the lower part of the town had his practical and hearty support. The Fine Art Institute, the Art Club, and kindred societies also received the patronage and encouragement of the deceased. He was a respected member of the King Street U.F. Church, and was for a period the preses of the congregation.

Of Mr Murray personally it is not easy to write without

seeming to use the language of exaggeration. He was our close personal friend, and a few weeks before his death it was our privilege to accompany him on a Presidential visit to the Tam o' Shanter and Rosebery Clubs of Glasgow, as well as the Federation meeting at Sunderland, on which occasions his eloquent pleadings on behalf of the Chair of Scottish History left the deepest impression on all who heard him. He was big-brained, big-hearted, and big-souled. Notwithstanding his exceptional intellectual gifts and attainments, he was modest and unassuming to a degree, while he was no less characterised by courtesy and geniality of manner. There was, indeed, a magnetic charm about him which made him one of the most loveable of men. He had an extensive knowledge of the best literature, was richly endowed with natural gifts, and possessed a rare capacity for fluent and eloquent expression. That he should have been cut off just when he seemed to have reached the zenith of his powers, and when a long career of usefulness appeared to lie before him, is one of those mysteries of Providence which the human mind finds itself unable to solve, but which must be accepted with sorrowful submission. There is the consolation that is to be found in many years' fruitful labour, in the legacy of a strongly stimulating example, and in a memory of high character and achievement which will be warmly cherished by all who came under his influence. His death is an irreparable loss to the Federation, in whose affairs he took the most consuming interest. Mr Murray was forty-seven years of age and unmarried.

The funeral took place on Monday, 9th December, and was attended by representatives of the Federation from Glasgow and elsewhere, the School Board of Kilmarnock, the senior pupils of the Academy, and the various societies and learned bodies with which the deceased was connected. The shops were closed along the route, and the cortege was a most imposing one. No parallel to it has been witnessed in Kilmarnock since the death of Provost Mackay.

THE AULD BRIG O' AYR.

THE preservation work at the Auld Brig has been proceeding satisfactorily during the year under the superintendence of Mr J. Wilson, C.E., Glasgow, and Mr Morris, architect, Ayr. The underfooting of the defective arches has been nearly completed, and a temporary wooden bridge has been erected for the convenience of passengers. The work has not turned out so difficult as was expected, and there is every prospect of a surplus balance after it is completed. The result is highly flattering to the national spirit which responded so generously to Lord Rosebery's appeal.

"Mr Punch's" kindly advocacy is worthy of preservation :—

THE AULD BRIG O' AYR.

[Lord Rosebery has appealed for £10,000 to save this famous structure from being demolished, on account of its unsafe condition. The anniversary of Burns's birthday is on the 25th, and his immortal memory will be toasted at numerous haggis-and-whisky feasts. "Mr Punch's" advice for Burns's Nicht is that his worshippers should pass round the hat and let their saxpences gang bang into it.]

Meant for a poet, born an Earl,
His Lordship, like a pawky carl,
Has ta'en the spigot frae his barr'l,
And let it run
In gowden thoughts and words o' pearl,
Weel oiled wi' fun.

Ye brither Scots, frae Perth to Denny !
Tak' tent o' drum-taps frae Dalmeny ;
Come ilka Jock, come ilka Jenny,
Richt blithe and trig,
Row in your pound, birl up your penny,
And save the Brig !

Five hunder years, in foul and fair,
I've knelt upon the banks of Ayr,
Bending my back, now gashed and bare,
Frae land to land,
And, by yon Sun, five hunder mair
I hope to stand !

Could ye but see the mighty thrang
Hae passed my cobble stanes alang,
The lads and lasses, lithe and strang,
The bairns sae prime !
My frien's, you'd say I did sma' wrang
To beg for lime !

Ladies and Lords frae yont the toun,
Knights wi' chain coats and iron shoon,
Bailies, hae bauchled up and doun
My auld soo's back ;
And Princes rested on my croon,
To hae their crack.

But, King amang them a' by right
Was he who on yon autumn night
Watched the braid moon her silver light
Lave in my stream,
The while he preened his fancy's flight
And wove his dream.

And shall these stanes where Rabbie stood,
For lack o' mortar, by the rood !
A shapeless mass beneath the flood
Sink for a' time ?
The King o' Scotland's rhyming brood
Forbids the crime ;

All ye who warm at Rabbie's flame,
Who sing his sangs, and toast his name,
The door step o' his muse's hame
Ye daffin' ca' me—
Be his the sorrow, yours the shame,
If ill befa' me !

By all the guid his sangs hae done,
By all the love that he has won,
Frae Arctic night to India's sun,
Ower land and sea,
While greenwood grows and rivers run,
It shall na be !

—From *Punch*, by permission.

[It is needless to say that Mr Punch's advice was followed, and the £10,000 exceeded.—Ed.]

REVIEWS.

A PRIMER OF BURNS.

IF the Merchandise Trade Mark Act had extended so far to literature as to include the titles of books, we fear the author of the volume with the above title would have found himself in trouble. About ten years ago a book dealing with the works of Burns was published with the same designation, the author being Mr Wm. A. Craigie, then a lecturer in St. Andrews University, afterwards transferred to Oxford, where we believe he is still on duty. The two treatises, however, differ entirely in conception and treatment of the subject. So well has Mr Craigie executed his task that we have no hesitation in saying that no book on Burns of the same dimensions can compare with it for the outstanding ability which is conspicuous in its every chapter. Mr M'Gown, schoolmaster, Corstorphine, who is the author of the second primer, happily provokes no comparison. His volume is essentially a text book for schools, and he attempts nothing further than the presentation of a pure text with accompanying notes, historical, explanatory, and philological. The pieces selected are "To a Mouse," "The Cottar's Saturday Night," "To a Mountain Daisy," and "A Winter Night," the text being abridged in the longer pieces for economic reasons intended to appeal to the book market. This is quite excusable in the production of a schoolbook competing for public favour, but we fail to appreciate Mr M'Gown's "obvious reasons" for omitting the sixth stanza of the "Mountain Daisy." Much of Burns, we admit, is not spoonmeat for babes, but so far as we remember, this is the first time we have seen any objection taken to the stanza in question. The notes appended are very elaborate—perhaps too elaborate for children in the senior and supplementary classes of our public schools for whose benefit the work

has been specially compiled. Mr M'Gown has, however, aimed at completeness, linguistic and literary, and if the notes err in the particulars of length and inclusiveness, the author's prefatory apology "that his object is not so much to meet a demand as to create one," must be deemed sufficient explanation. To many it may seem superfluous to explain at length what is meant by a "clean hearth stane," and to many more the following paraphrase of the second stanza of "To a Mouse" may appear a mere overloading of the page:—"I am indeed sadly grieved to think that man's power over animals has rendered it impossible for them to live together without the latter having a feeling of dread and distrust of the former." But it must be borne in mind that Mr M'Gown is addressing, not men and women, but the senior pupils of a school. His definitions of the Scottish words and idioms are commendably correct and pithily expressed. In stating the facts of the Poet's life, an author cannot be too careful in these days of hypercriticism of everything that relates to Burns. Burns may or may not have been descended from a Highland family in Argyleshire, but when Mr Crawford, of Doonside, is meant, he must not be described as a mythical Laird of Crawford whom nobody ever heard of. The book is printed and bound with Mr Gardner's usual good taste, and may be had at the modest price of one shilling net.

The Homes and Haunts of Scott and Burns. By George Eyre Todd.

This beautiful little booklet is by no means an example of the conventional railway guide book with which we are perhaps too familiar. It professes to describe the scenery along the route of the Caledonian Railway in the Burns and Scott countries, and this is accomplished by Mr Eyre Todd with most commendable correctness and rare literary grace. The numerous finely-executed photogravures lend an additional charm to the *brochure* which ought to find a place in the library of every Burns collector.

PETER HILL AND BURNS'S EDINBURGH FRIENDS.

PETER HILL was four years Burns's senior, and he survived the Poet forty years. Burns came to Edinburgh in November, 1786. The Edinburgh edition of the poems was published by Creech in April, 1787, Hill being then in Creech's employment. The first letter from Burns to Hill is dated 17th May, 1787, showing that the acquaintance between them began soon after Burns came to Edinburgh, and no doubt in Creech's office, Burns being then in his twenty-ninth and Hill in his thirty-third year. The last letter is dated 29th January, 1796, five months before the Poet's death. Of the 534 letters by Burns indexed by the late Wm. Scott Douglas in the last published edition of the Poet's writings, 56 are to George Thomson, 48 to Clarinda, 42 to Mrs Dunlop, 18 to Mrs Riddell, and 16 to Peter Hill. The letters to Thomson are rather business than friendly in their character. Those to Clarinda were "episodical," so that in point of number of letters to him that have been preserved, Hill comes third in the list of Burns's friendly correspondents and first among the friends of his own sex. Of these sixteen letters I have the originals, of ten of which I had a hundred copies photo-lithographed a few years ago with the intention of distributing them to such persons as I thought would sufficiently value their possession. The first two letters of May and July, 1787, are formal, but that of a year later—the first of those of which I have the originals—shows that the intimacy had rapidly developed. It is, like many others of the Poet's letters, very unreserved, so much so as inevitably to raise the question whether it ought to have been published.*

* One of the most "unreserved" of these letters, on "Mademoiselle Burns," will be found in Scott Douglas's Edinburgh edition, vol. v., p. 291.

It has been stated that Hill was a member of the Crochallan Club. Of that I know of no evidence beyond its being an inference—I think unfounded and in itself improbable—from the fact of his intimacy with those who were members of that Bohemian Society. He married in 1780, fully six years before he came to know Burns, and during that time no doubt had become the father of several of the fifteen children he begat during the quarter of a century which followed his marriage. He was prosperous through life till near the close, when he lost his means through over confidence in others. He became a member of the Town Council in 1809, and held the offices for several years of treasurer of George Heriot's Hospital, and head collector of the city taxes. He left Creech in 1788, beginning business for himself with Archibald Constable as his first apprentice. I take it, therefore, that when Burns knew him he was a douce family man, diligent, temperate and prudent, not a Bohemian, yet with Bohemian likings and leanings, generous in his sympathies and practice. Burns calls him "my liberal-minded friend," and with a keen perception and relish for the humorous aspect of things. That he was prosperous and likely to prosper was perceived by the Poet and rejoiced in without drawback, notwithstanding that his own lot was never that which we call prosperous. Thus in the letter of probable date July, 1791, Burns writes to him:—"It is with the greatest pleasure that I learn from all hands, and particularly from your warm friend and patron the laird here (Glenriddell), that you are going on spreading and thriving like the palm tree that shades the fragrant vale in the Holy Land of the prophet. May the richest juices from beneath and the dews of heaven foster your root and refresh your branches, until you be as conspicuous among your fellows as the stately Goliah towering over the little pigmy Philistines around him! Amen! So be it!—ROBERT BURNS."

In the Bard's epitaph he records that he

> "Keenly felt the friendly glow
> And softer flame."

I shall pass over Burns's friendships for members of the

other sex with only one remark. I think that those who undertake to comment on this subject should (1) take the trouble to know the facts so far as they can be known, (2) they should have the courage to speak the whole truth, and (3) they should have the reticence to speak nothing but the truth. Burns has suffered much injustice at the hands of friends as well as foes through neglect of these obviously fair conditions. Burns was singularly, even morbidly, jealous of giving his friendship—as he was also of giving his song—for any consideration, or in circumstances where such might be thought possible. One would have thought that neither Robert Aitken, the Ayr writer, nor Gavin Hamilton were so far above him in social importance as to make it necessary for him to guard himself against the imputation of interested motives in paying them a poetical compliment. But he felt otherwise. "The Cottar's Saturday Night" is inscribed to Aitken, and begins with the disclaimer—

> "My loved, my honor'd, much respected frien',
> No mercenary bard his homage pays:
> With honest pride I scorn each selfish end,
> My dearest meed a friend's esteem and praise."

And the "Dedication" to Hamilton concludes with an elaborated distinction between "service" and "friendship," implying that even towards the good Gavin the latter might only be possible in its perfection should a change of fortune make "the clerk as poor a dog"—a sentiment condensed in the "Stanzas on Naething," also addressed to Hamilton—

> "And now, as grim death's in my thought,
> To you, Sir, I make this bequeathing,
> My service as long as ye've ought,
> And my friendship, by God, when ye've naething."

But apart from all reference to interest, as Arnold says, "Equality is social—inequality unsocial." Most of Burns's intimate friends belonged to Edinburgh, and were intimate with Peter Hill. Richard Brown he knew at Irvine, James Smith and John Richmond at Mauchline. James Candlish was first an Ayrshire friend; he afterwards went to Glasgow. Candlish married Smith's sister, the "witty Mauchline belle," and their son was the

late Dr Robert Smith Candlish. William Smellie, printer of the Edinburgh edition; Alexander Cunningham and William Dunbar, writers; Robert Cleghorn, farmer of Saughton; William Nicol and Allan Masterton, schoolmasters, and the "Willie" and "Allan" of "Willie brew'd;" and Peter Hill, bookseller, were the Edinburgh set. No friendship so extensive was afterwards formed. Several of these were members of the Crochallan Corps—"a club of choice spirits and men of talent," writes some one (I think Syme) in one of the MS. letters to Hill. "Convivial and not very select society" is Professor Dugald Stewart's unfavourable description. Most of them were men whose individuality it is easy to recognise—all of them social and humorous, all with good hearts, in the Poet's estimation at least. This he notes of the roughest of them, Smellie:—

> "His uncombed, grizzly locks, wild staring, thatched,
> A head for thought profound and clear, unmatched,
> Yet though his caustic wit was biting, rude,
> His heart was warm, benevolent, and good."

On none of Burns's friends have the biographers and critics been so severe as on Nicol. Lockhart's account of him is that of an entirely disreputable person. His conduct at Blair and Gordon Castles is always condemned. Even the ludicrous aspect of it is lost sight of—his stamping up and down the street before the hire at Fochabers, cursing the postilion for not getting ready quickly enough to take him on his journey, leaving Burns behind with his aristocratic friends who did not consider Nicol, as he supposed, good enough for their society—all this fails to strike the critics as in the least amusing. They are too angry to laugh. They reflect on how much future advantage as well as present enjoyment were probably lost to the Poet through his being hurried away from the castle where not only he but Nicol, for his sake, would have been made welcome to remain for a time. One commentator remarks how difficult it was for Burns to play the part of "lion" with such a "jackal" in attendance. Nicol certainly did not consider himself "a jackal," and had he tried to play that part, his doing so would as certainly not have pleased

the "lion." He was Burns's friend, and he asserted rightly the equality of friendship, and he retained that friendship to the last, which no man of the "jackal" nature could ever have done. Burns named a son after William Nicol before he paid a like compliment to the Earl of Glencairn. To Nicol he wrote sometimes banteringly, but always with real affection and respect, and on him he composed an epitaph—an office he was always ready to perform by anticipation for friend or enemy—which though not very elegant is very complimentary:—

> "Ye maggots feed on Nicol's brain,
> For few sic feasts ye've gotten,
> And fix your claws on Nicol's heart,
> For deil a bit o't 's rotten."

We may be sure these friends of Burns were, like himself, lovers of mirth, and knew that it was good sometimes to be merry if not always possible to be wise. The Poet has given us few more charming pictures than that of his own foregathering with the light-hearted "hizzie" on the fresh summer morning of Mauchline's "Holy Fair," when he walked forth from Mossgiel to view the springing corn and the sun rising over Galston muirs:—

> "Wi' bonnet aff, quoth I, 'Sweet lass,
> I think ye seem to ken me;
> I'm sure I've seen that bonnie face,
> But yet I canna name ye.'
> Quo' she, an' laughing as she spak',
> An' tak's me by the hauns,
> 'Ye, for my sake, ha'e gi'en the feck
> Of a' the ten commauns
> A screed some day,
> My name is Fun—your cronie dear,
> The nearest friend ye ha'e.'"

It is certain that no man could be this man's friend and cronie who did not love fun.

> "It lightens—it brightens
> The tenebrific scene"

as truly as friendship or love itself, and sometimes more effectually than either. To this "not very select society" it was that the Poet's heart turned in his dark days. In one of his latest letters to Hill he writes thus:—"How is old sinful Smellie coming on with this world, for as to the other I suppose he has given that

up? Is there any talk of his second volume? If you meet with my much-valued old friend, Col. Dunbar of the Crochallan Fencibles, remember me most affectionately to him. Alas! not unfrequently when my heart is in a wandering humour, I live past scenes over again, and to my mind's eye, you, Dunbar, Cleghorn, Cunningham, &c., present their friendly phiz, and my bosom aches with tender recollections! Adieu!—ROBERT BURNS."

The select Edinburgh circle into which Burns was admitted —Stewart, Blair, Gregory, Blacklock, and the rest—were friendly, but they were not friends in the same sense. It was neither their fault nor his that they were not social equals. He preferred the "not select society," simply because he belonged to it, and he was social. Mr Stewart refers to this with evident regret. But it was inevitable. An ambitious man will generally cultivate the society of those above him: a vain man will sometimes prefer that of those beneath him if they flatter his vanity, and sometimes those above him, because his associating with them confers on him distinction, real or supposed. But a social man instinctively and inevitably chooses the society of his equals. The highest mutual respect and the most affectionate regard are possible between men of the most widely different positions in society, as witness Burns's own relationship to Lord Glencairn:—

> "The bridegroom may forget the bride
> Was made his wedded wife yestreen,
> The Monarch may forget the crown
> That on his head an hour has been,
> The mother may forget the child
> That smiles sae sweetly on her knee,
> But I'll remember thee, Glencairn,
> And a' that thou hast done for me."

There can be no doubt of the sincerity and passionate depth of feeling expressed here, but it is gratitude, not friendship. Among his Edinburgh friendships, in my estimation, that with Peter Hill was as close and confiding as any I have referred to.

GEORGE WILSON.

[The writer, the late George Wilson of Murrayfield House, Midlothian, was a grandson of Peter Hill.]

COILA, THE MUSE OF BURNS.

FEW subjects are more interesting to the student of literary history than the changes—revolutions almost—which from time to time take place in the popular view of our poetic masters. The heresy of one generation not infrequently becomes the orthodox doctrine of the next. Thirty years ago he would have been a bold man who ventured to suggest in any public print that either Shakespeare or Burns owed more than the merest trifle of suggestion to any writer who had gone before. The supreme merit of both men of genius was popularly supposed to be their "originality," the heaven-inspired faculty by which they had made something out of nothing. To-day it is impossible to hold this view; it is recognised on all hands that men of genius, however great, are as much the offspring of the ages that have gone before as they are the inspirers of the centuries that follow. The models of most of Shakespeare's plays, and the suggestions of many of his most famous passages, are now well known, and in the case of Burns we have before us the old songs he re-made, the old measures he filled with new life, the old fashions he made illustrious. The day has gone by when it was possible to regard Burns as an unlettered peasant. We know now that he was an eager student of the poet's craft, that he never went to cart or plough without a book in his pocket, and that he knew pretty much all that was to be known in his time of the best Scottish "makars" who had gone before him. It is true that the antiquarian side of his services to literature has hardly yet received adequate recognition. As a matter of fact, we owe as much to Burns for the recovery and preservation of the older Scottish songs as we owe to Scott for the recovery and preservation of the Scottish ballads. But every student now knows how Burns found the model for his elegies in Robert Semple's "Piper of

Kilbarchan," for his epistles in the epistles of Hamilton of Gilbertfield and others, his "Jolly Beggars" in the early rough-and-tumble of James V.'s "Christis Kirk on the Green," and his "Hallowe'en" and "Logan Water" in the "Hallowe'en" and "Logan Braes" of John Mayne. His second Heron Ballad was quite frankly modelled on Francis Semple's "Blythesome Bridal;" his "Despondency" and "Epistle to Davie" adopt the stanza of Alexander Montgomerie's piece, "The Cherrie and the Slae;" and not only were "The Cottar's Saturday Night," "The Field Mouse," "The Holy Fair," and "The Twa Brigs" openly founded upon the "Farmer's Ingle," "Gowdspink," "Leith Races," and "Plainstanes and Causey" of Robert Fergusson, but he distinctly served himself heir to that bard in the genealogy of Scottish poets. The greatness of Burns, like the greatness of Shakespeare and Scott, is seen in the superb use he made of the rough material laid to his hand by less skilful and less gifted craftsmen.

There is one point to which attention has never been fully directed, which throws light at once upon the Poet's breadth of reading and interest in antiquities, and at the same time possesses value as a piece of evidence regarding one of the most eagerly discussed episodes of his life. It is the name, and the personality behind that name, which he chose for his Muse.

The fact of Burns's formally naming a Muse at all is of course one of the signs which mark his relationship to the school of poets of the eighteenth century who had gone before him. Among the somewhat artificial singers of the loves of Strephon and Chloe and the woes of shepherds and shepherdesses in powder and patches and high-heeled shoes, it had been the fashion to speak of their "Muse" and to give her a name. It was his acquaintance with these writers which gave Burns the idea of carrying on a correspondence with Mrs Maclehose under the poetic name of "Clarinda," and of celebrating his friendship with Jean Lorimer in so many songs addressed to "Chloris." But the immediate hint for the name of his Muse he probably got from a Scottish poet who had enjoyed a high popularity just before his own time.

Alexander Ross, the schoolmaster-poet of the remote Lochlea, among the Grampian recesses of Forfarshire, is remembered yet as the original author of "Woo'd an' married an' a'," "The rock and the wee pickle tow," and several other spirited songs. His most ambitious work, "Helenore, or the Fortunate Shepherdess," published in 1766, remains a classic of the Buchan dialect, and through his own intimate family connection with that region, Burns could not help being familiar with it. "The Fortunate Shepherdess" was a pastoral of Scottish life directly inspired by "The Gentle Shepherd" of Allan Ramsay, but a point of interest here is that Ross had followed the fashion of his time, had chosen a Muse, and had given her the name of "Scota." Ross's use of "Scota" barred that name to Burns. But for this fact it seems not unlikely that the strong patriotic impulses of the Ayrshire Poet would have led him to adopt the fabulous ancestress of the Scottish race as the inspirer of his song. That name having been already annexed, however, he looked round for another that might be symbolic enough of his genius and germane enough to his personality, and it must be acknowledged that he could not have been happier in his choice. The circumstances by which he was led to select "Coila" for his Muse can now of course only be conjectured, but conjecture in this case comes so close to probability that there can be little doubt left as to the truth. The figure of Coyl, "King of the Picts," as Burns calls him, had evidently always exercised an influence upon the Poet's imagination. The opening lines in the first poem, "The Twa Dogs," with which he opened his poetic campaign in the Kilmarnock volume, ran—

> "'Twas in that place o' Scotland's isle
> That bears the name o' auld King Coil," &c.

From this statement it is clear that Burns knew Kyle, the district of Ayrshire which includes the town of Ayr, to have taken its name from the ancient British chief or king. It is the name with which he fondly identifies himself in the famous stanzas regarding his birth :—

> "There was a lad was born in Kyle."

Next, in "The Vision" as first printed in the Kilmarnock volume, we have his muse appear to him definitely under the name of Coila :—

> "Of these am I—Coila my name ;
> And this district as mine I claim,
> Where once the Campbells, chiefs of fame
> Held ruling power :
> I mark'd thy embryo-tuneful flame,
> Thy natal hour."

Upon that first appearance of his Muse in the poetry of Burns, she is described as greeting the Bard with "an elder sister's air." There is reason to surmise that she presently assumed a more tender complexion. In his later edition he added some stanzas to the first "duan" of this poem, and in one of them takes occasion to mention Coyl himself :—

> "There, where a scepter'd Pictish shade
> Stalk'd round his ashes lowly laid,
> I mark'd a martial race," &c.

This reference he explained in a footnote :—"Coilus, King of the Picts, from whom the district of Kyle is said to take its name, lies buried, as tradition says, near the family seat of the Montgomeries of Coilsfield, where his burial-place is still shown."

Between the writing of the first version of "The Vision," and the emendation of it for his later edition, a whole world of experience, bitter and sweet, had befallen the Poet, and more than one part of that experience finds a record in the poem. In the first version of the piece one couplet ran—

> "And such a leg ! my Bess, I ween,
> Could only peer it."

This in the second edition became—

> "And such a leg ! my bonnie Jean
> Could only peer it."

It is needless to say that the altered allusion stands for a record of the ripening of his relationship with Jean Armour. In the same way the later detailed information in the note as to the burial-place of "Coilus, King of the Picts," near the family seat of the Montgomeries of Coilsfield, probably stands for a record of his intimacy with Highland Mary.

Coilsfield House, the modern Montgomery Castle, stands on the bank of the Fail rivulet, which flows into the Coyl, a tributary of the Ayr, at no great distance from Mauchline and Mossgiel; and Burns, on going to live in the neighbourhood seems soon to have made acquaintance with it. The occupant of the old house in the Poet's time was Colonel Montgomery, whose sterling qualities as a soldier and a member of Parliament Burns alluded to in more than one poem under the name of "Sodger Hugh." At a later day the Colonel, as twelfth Earl of Eglinton, was the builder of Ardrossan Harbour and the projector of the Glasgow and Ardrossan Canal, and the street in Glasgow in which the terminus of the canal was situated was called in his honour Eglinton Street. But it was not the merits of the enterprising colonel that took Burns wandering up the secluded woody banks of the Fail. Highland Mary is said to have been a servant at Coilsfield House, and whatever doubt may have been cast on that belief might very well be dispelled by the number of allusions in the poems which seem to assume the connection. In his "Highland Lassie" we find him wandering forth to a spot which might easily be identified at the present hour :—

"Within the glen sae bushy, O,
Abune the plain sae rushy, O,
I sit me down wi' right good will
To sing my Highland lassie, O.
O were yon hills and valleys mine,
Yon palace and yon gardens fine,
The world then the love should know
I bear my Highland lassie, O."

The allusion here is quite obviously to Coilsfield House.

At a later day, looking back with the sweet sorrow in his heart, he more distinctly identified the spot in the opening lines of his "Highland Mary" :—

"Ye banks and braes and streams around
The Castle o' Montgomery!
Green be your woods and fair your flowers,
Your waters never drumly!
There simmer first unfaulds her robes,
And there the langest tarry,
For there I took the last fareweel
O' my sweet Highland Mary."

These lines appear to identify the Fail rivulet as the "purling brook," on each side of which the lovers stood to lave their hands and hold the Bible between them on that ever memorable occasion when they took their vows to be faithful to one another, and parted never to meet again.

It seems more than likely that Burns got the additional information as to the burial-place of "Coilus," which he embodied in the second edition of "The Vision," while engaged in courting Highland Mary at Coilsfield House. The tradition has always been extant there that "Auld King Coyl" fought his last fight in the neighbourhood, and a mound, which is said to be his actual tumulus, is pointed out near the mansion to the present day. There is little reason to doubt the tradition that Coyl or Coylus, a king of the native Britons, was slain there in the early centuries by Fergus, King of the Scots, who came over from the Scottish settlements in Kintyre to raid the region. The name of Coylus survives in the names of the neighbourhood—Coilsfield, the Coyl rivulet, Coylton parish, and the district of Kyle. His fame also seems to have extended much farther afield, for it is no doubt his name and character that survive in the well-known rhyme:—

> "Old King Cole was a merry, merry soul,
> A merry old soul was he;
> He called for his pipe and called for his bowl,
> And called for his fiddlers three."

But whatever might be Burns's original intention in adopting "Coila" as the Muse of his poetry, there can be little doubt that, from the time of his acquaintance with Highland Mary, and his intercourse with her at Coilsfield and on the banks of the Fail and Coyl, the personality which lived within the name as an inspiration for his work could have been no other than that of Highland Mary herself.

GEORGE EYRE-TODD.

A CELEBRATED BEAUTY OF LAST CENTURY.

(From "KAY'S PORTRAITS," Vol. ii., pp. 399-401, No. cxxxvi.)

MISS BURNS or Matthews (for she assumed both names) represented herself as a native of the city of Durham, in England, where her father had been at one time a wealthy merchant; but latterly becoming unfortunate, and having contracted a ruinous second marriage, his elder children[1] were in a manner thrown destitute upon the world. This account may not be entitled to much credit; but that the circumstances of her early life had been respectable, was in some degree evidenced by a superior education and a personal demeanour which, notwithstanding her misfortunes, betokened an acquaintance with the better class of society.

Miss Burns came to Edinburgh about 1789, at which period she had scarcely completed her twentieth year. Her youth, beauty, and handsome figure—decked out in the highest style of fashion—attracted very general notice as she appeared on the "evening promenades;" and the fame of her charms having at length brought her before the magistrates, on a complaint at the instance of some of her neighbours,[2] the case excited an unusual sensation. Banishment "forth of the city," under the penalty, in case of return, of being drummed through the streets, besides confinement for six months in the house of correction, was the severe decision of Bailie Creech, who happened to be the sitting magistrate.[3] Against this sentence Miss Burns entered an

[1] Miss Burns had two sisters nearly as handsome and pretty as herself.

[2] She lived in Rose Street, directly opposite the back windows of Lord Swinton's house.

[3] Bailie Creech was greatly annoyed at the Court's decision; and as his antipathy to the "fair but frail" victim of his magisterial indignation was well known, various squibs were circulated at his expense. Among others it was

appeal to the Court of Session by presenting a bill of suspension to the Lord Ordinary (Dreghorn), which was refused; but on a reclaiming petition, the cause came to be advised by the whole Court, when one of the private complainers acknowledged that he had been induced to sign the complaint, for which he was sorry, in ignorance of any "riot or disturbance having been committed in the [petitioner's] house." This statement had no doubt its due weight, and the Court was pleased to remit to the Lord Ordinary to pass the bill. While the case was pending, Burns, the Poet, is said to have written an inimitably humorous letter to his friend, the late Peter Hill, bookseller, inquiring the fate of his namesake. In the published works of the Poet the following "lines" are given as having been "written under the portrait of the celebrated Miss Burns":—

> "Cease, ye prudes, your envious railing,
> Lovely Burns has charms—confess;
> True it is she had one failing—
> Had a woman ever less?"

After a few years of unenviable notoriety, Miss Burns fell into a decline; and having taken lodgings at Rosslyn, for change of air, she died there in 1792. A stone in the churchyard, where her remains were interred, records her name and the date of her death.

(See also Curious Note on Miss Burns, by W. Scott Douglas. Paterson's edition, Edinburgh. Vol. v., pp. 293-294.)

EDITOR.

announced in a London journal that "Bailie Creech, of literary celebrity in Edinburgh, was about to lead the beautiful and accomplished Miss Burns to the hymeneal altar." The Bailie was exceedingly wroth, and only abandoned his threatened action against the editor on the promise of a counter statement being given in next publication. The *per contra* accordingly appeared, but in a way by no means calculated to allay the irritation of the civic functionary. It was to the following effect:—"In a former number we noticed the intended marriage between Bailie Creech, of Edinburgh, and the beautiful Miss Burns, of the same place. We have now the authority of that gentleman to say that the proposed marriage is not to take place, matters having been otherwise arranged to the mutual satisfaction of both parties and their respective friends!"

CLUB NOTES.

[*COMMUNICATED.*]

PROPOSED ASSOCIATION OF GLASGOW AND DISTRICT BURNS CLUBS.

A MEETING called on behalf of the National Burns Club, Glasgow, was held in the club rooms on the evening of 8th November. Mr J. Jeffrey Hunter, president of the club, who occupied the chair, explained that a circular had been issued to the clubs of the city and district immediately surrounding to have a friendly talk over various matters of interest to local Burnsians. Many of the clubs were doing good work, but it was felt that there might be more co-operation amongst them, and in particular that mutual assistance could be given to literary and musical evenings, at least to the extent of fixing dates so as not to clash with each other.

The following clubs were represented at the meeting, viz. :—Mr Webster and Mr Menzies (Western); Alex. M'Donald, John C. Seright, and William Allan (Kilbowie Jolly Beggars, Clydebank); M. Smith and T. Struther (Old Kilpatrick); Mr Fisher (Albany); Rev. James Forrest, M.A. (Tam o' Shanter); J. M. Brown (Co-operative Club); Alex. Pollock (Rosebery Club); James Ballantyne (Carlton Club); J. Jeffrey Hunter (Bridgeton Club); John Carmichael (National Burns Club); Joseph Martin (Haggis Club); Edward Wilson (Albany Club); T. P. Thomson (Tam o' Shanter): W. Wilson (Hamilton Junior), and others.

Apologies for absence were received from Mr Thomas Killin (Glasgow Mauchline Society) and others.

The first subject introduced was the *Glasgow Herald* "Auld Brig" Fund. A letter was read from Mr John Brown, banker, the treasurer of the fund, intimating that the amount in his hands at date amounted with interest to over £832. The Chairman explained that the meeting could make no motion on the subject, but could offer suggestions. It was well known that the state of the bridge was not so serious as at first reported, and that the amount collected (£10,500 roughly) was not needed for the present operations of restoration. He was not expressing his opinion, but the general idea seemed to be that all that was undertaken when the subscriptions were made was that the bridge should be restored to a thoroughly safe state. After that the matter should be left to the Ayr Town Council and to posterity. It would not be fair that perhaps the half of this large sum of money should remain locked up in bank awaiting future developments in connection with the structure. There was a widespread desire that the money not presently needed should go to the Scottish Chair of Literature and History, or some other worthy purpose, but of course any quarrel in the matter was out of the question.

After some discussion it was agreed that the Chairman should see Deacon Convener Kirkwood, with a view to calling a meeting of the Glasgow "Auld Brig" Committee.

The next subject discussed was the proposed Chair, which was warmly supported by the Rev. James Forrest, M.A., Mr Alexander Pollock, and others, and it was agreed to do everything possible to keep the matter before the public, and to assist Dr Wallace's Committee in every possible way. It was agreed to ask that the name of the Rev. James Forrest should be added to Dr Wallace's Committee.

A general discussion then ensued as to the possibility and expediency of resolving the meeting into a permanent association with a view to discussing matters pertaining to the Burns cult as these might arise, and to render all possible assistance to the work of the Burns Federation. It was unanimously agreed that this was a feasible scheme, and on the motion of Mr A. Pollock of the Rosebery Club, seconded by the Rev. James Forrest, M.A., vice-president of the Tam o' Shanter Club, it was agreed that the meeting resolve itself into the "Glasgow and District United Burns Club Association." It was further agreed that the following gentlemen form a sub-committee to draw up rules to be submitted to a committee of the association to be held on 10th December, viz. :—The Chairman, Messrs James Ballantyne, Alexander Pollock, Rev. James Forrest, James Killin, and Mr Webster.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman closed the proceedings.

ROSEBERY BURNS CLUB, GLASGOW.

Founded 1885. Federated 1887.

The Club meets on Tuesday evenings, at eight o'clock, in Messrs Fergusson & Forrester's, Limited, Buchanan Street, Glasgow. The Executive request that members of the Club will endeavour to attend all meetings promptly at eight o'clock.

The Rosebery Club continues prosperous in every respect. The literary lectures, which have been maintained since its inception, have been a prominent feature of the past session. The attendance at all the lectures and other functions, under the auspices of the Club, has been most gratifying.

The competitions of the Club, both junior and senior, were in the past year a gratifying success beyond previous years, successful as these had been.

This year the Whitevale U.F. Church Band of Hope was added to the juvenile competitions of the Club, and a very successful competition took place.

In connection with the juvenile competitions, we are glad to state that the services of our members—Mr James Angus and Mr Alex. Pollock—are being increasingly called upon to act as judges in the competitions in singing and elocution.

The senior competition of the Rosebery this year was held as formerly in the Christian Institute, and was attended by the President of the Federation, Mr M'Naught, editor of the *Burns Chronicle*, and Mr Amos, hon. secretary.

Dr Wm. Wallace, editor of the *Glasgow Herald*, delivered a very interesting address. No less than 18 less-known songs of Burns were sung by the competitors, and the attendance and attention of the audience showed that the "Rosebery's" efforts towards preserving the "Auld Scotch Sangs" are meeting with increasing appreciation.

To any clubs who wish to begin children's or senior competitions, the "Rosebery" Club are very willing to give advice and hints. Mr Pollock, 52 West Nile Street, Glasgow, who is the convener of our competitions, has been already frequently called upon for such advice, and we are proud to say that he is willing always to assist Burns clubs in this matter.

SYLLABUS—SESSION 1907-1908.

1907.

Oct. 8. Lecture, "George Buchanan"—Rev. D. M'Millan, D.D.
,, 22. Visit from the Bridgeton Burns Club.
,, 29. Smoking Symposium—Mr Wm. Allan.
Nov. 12. Lecture, "Realism in the Poetry of Scotland"—Mr A. M. Williams.
,, 26. Lecture, "John Brown: A Literary Scot"—Mr John B. Freebairn, M.A.
Dec. 10. Visit to the Greenock Burns Club.
,, 17. Ladies' Night.

1908.

Jan. 14. Lecture—Rev. James Forrest, M.A.
,, 27. Anniversary Dinner—Mr A. M. Williams.
Feb. 4. Band of Hope Competition—Judges, Messrs Angus and Pollock.
,, 11. Lecture, "Ramble Around Glasgow 100 Years Ago"—Dr Lothian.
,, 18. Lecture, "Burns and Poetry"—Rev. William Dunlop.
Mar. 10. Gold Medal Competition Concert—Mr Alex. Pollock, Convener.
,, 24. Tattie-an'-Herrin' Supper.
Apr. 28. Annual Business Meeting.

COMPETITIONS.

The Executive have again arranged to hold senior and junior competitions in singing and reciting Scottish songs and poems during the session.

The juvenile competitions will be in connection with Bands of Hope. Several members have again offered silver medals and prizes. The Executive will endeavour to supply all applications from Bands of Hope with medals, and also, if desired, judges for competitions.

The Senior Competition.—Highly valuable gold medals have again been presented by members of the Club. The success which attended the concerts of the last four years has been most encouraging, and the Executive will spare no efforts to make the competition concert in March, 1908, an advance on the previous competitions.

All communications regarding juvenile or senior competitions should be addressed to the Convener of Competitions' Committee, Mr Alex. Pollock, 52 West Nile Street, Glasgow.

SUNDERLAND BURNS CLUB.

Tenth Annual Report—April, 1907.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual meeting of last year was very largely attended and of a most enthusiastic nature.

The discussion which took place on the various reports shows the members have more than a passing interest in the work of the Club.

DINNER.

The anniversary dinner of 1907 was again a very successful gathering. We were honoured by having Mr David Fortune, J.P., Glasgow, to propose the toast of the "Immortal Memory," which he did with all his accustomed fire and energy.

The concert is now one of the great gatherings of the year, and is looked forward to by many as a "Nicht at hame amang the Auld Scots Sangs." The audience was large, and the company of artistes, judging from the number of recalls, certainly a pleasing one.

The concert held in Newcastle, under the joint management of the Northern Societies was again a great success, with the result that we as a Club join in the benefits accruing from that concert.

After a lapse of six years it was decided that we should have a picnic, and the committee were instructed by the members to arrange for a half-day outing. After careful consideration it was decided to visit Blackhall Rocks, on Saturday afternoon, July 28, 1906. The party left Sunderland at 1.40, reaching Hordon about 2 p.m. The time was pleasantly spent, a nice walk to Hesledon in the evening to join the train, and Sunderland being reached shortly after ten, all having thoroughly enjoyed the afternoon's outing.

CONVERSAZIONE.

The conversazione has been left out of our syllabus during the last two seasons, and it was thought we might with advantage try again. Accordingly a Hallowe'en Dance was arranged.

This gathering was held in Mr Wetherell's Rooms, on Wednesday evening, October 31, 1906.

The present number of the *Chronicle* has been improved and issued in a new cover which has added to the appearance of the new volume. Our members fully appreciate the work of the Editor, Mr D. M'Naught, whom we hope to see at the Federation meeting on Saturday, 7th September next. This year we are able to report an increase in the number of our readers.

During the year the musical side of our meetings has been engaging the attention of the committee, with the result that we have secured the services of Mr C. Petrie as Club pianist. This should be of great advantage to our members. We have also secured Mr G. Murray, a capable and smart Highland piper, who is ready and willing to give us his selections.

We started the year with 63 federated members, during the year 9 new members have joined, 3 have been struck off, 2 have resigned, leaving our

present federated membership at 67. A glance at our syllabus shows the nature of the papers submitted during the session.

SYLLABUS.

1906.
Oct. 3. President's Address—Mr A. W. Semple.
,, 17. Authorship of the "Land o' the Leal"—Mr W. H. Turner.
,, 31. Hallowe'en Dance (Mr Wetherell's Rooms)
Nov. 21. "Burns compared with others"—Mr J. F. Crooks.
Dec. 5. "Some Scottish Minor Poets"—Mr G. Mackay.
,, 19. Scotsmen's influence on the World's progress—Mr R. C. Lyness.
1907.
Jan. 16. Scottish Art—Mr G. Tawse.
,, 25. Anniversary Dinner, Palatine Hotel — D. Fortune, Esq., J.P. (Glasgow).
Feb. 6. Musical Evening (Members).
,, 7. Annual Scottish Concert, Victoria Hall.
,, 20. Some Scottish Peculiarities—Mr H. MacColl.
Mar. 6. "Scottish Minstrelsy"—Dr J. D. Farquharson.
,, 20. A Whaling Voyage Sixty years ago—Dr J. Waterston, J.P.
April 3. Business Meeting
May 1. Annual Meeting: Election of Officers.
Sept. 4 Business Meeting.

In our own Society nothing elicited so much interest as the paper read by Mr W. H. Turner on the authorship of "The Land o' the Leal." One remembers this particular paper were it for nothing more than the amount of careful reading necessary for the production of such a paper, and most certainly our library is the richer for possessing a copy of that article.

A pleasing feature also was the public lecture given by Dr J. D. Farquharson, president of the Newcastle Burns Club. This is what we have desired, a mutual intercourse and exchange of greetings between the various clubs That we have done a little in this direction is evidenced by the fact that some of our members have been assisting in the formation of a new club in Middlesbrough, while others have been paying visits to clubs in the neighbourhood.

FEDERATION MEETING.

The annual meeting of the Burns Federation was held in Kilmarnock in September last, and this club was represented at that meeting by Messrs W. H. Turner and A. W. Semple. It was a most important gathering, being the 21st annual meeting of the Federation. Progress was reported on the scheme for the preservation of the Auld Brig o' Ayr, while the awards for the song competition were also announced.

Our esteemed Honorary President (Alderman W. Burns) was elected as honorary vice-president of the Burns Federation, an honour which we as a Club are pleased to learn is much appreciated.

The annual meeting for 1907 was fixed to be held in Sunderland on Saturday, 7th September. Let us therefore prepare to give our "Brithers" a right and fitting welcome to our midst.

M. Neilson *Hon. Secretary.*

ALBANY BURNS CLUB.

Instituted 1900.

The Club meets on the first Wednesday of each month (from October till March inclusive), in White & Smith's Trades' House Restaurant, 89 Glassford Street, at 7.30 p.m. Members have the privilege of introducing friends.

"Maclennan Cup"—Bowling Competition.—This competition takes place in August, and members desirous of taking part in the game should send their names to the Secretary not later than 1st May. Entry money, 1s 6d.

SYLLABUS—SESSION 1907-8.

1907.
Oct. 2. "Burns: The Education of a Poet"—Hon. President Goodall.
Nov. 6. "Womanhood in Shakespeare"—Rev. James Forrest, M.A.
Dec. 4. "The Place of Fiction in the Bible"—Rev. Wm. Vallance, M.A.
1908.
Jan. 8. "Lady Nairn"—Ex-President J. Wilson Bain.
,, 24. Immortal Memory—Rev. J. Glasse, D.D., Edinburgh.
Feb. 5. "Song Singing"—John Russell, Esq.
Mar. 4. "Rudyard Kipling" Deacon Macwhannell.

GREENOCK BURNS CLUB.

Club Meetings are held in Club Room, 36 Nicholson Street, at 8 p.m.

During last session the Club met in accordance with the syllabus of last year, and lectures were delivered by Messrs J. Fraser Paton, David Low, and D. T. Holmes, B.A., and a concert party from Glasgow entertained the Club on one occasion, and this was introduced by Mr Ernest Brown.

Upon St. Andrew's night, a smoking concert was held instead of a Tattie-an'-herrin' Supper, and the President of the Club (Mr Alex. Gemmell, M.A.,) delivered an address.

The 105th Annual Celebration of the Club was held on the 25th day of January. Owing, however, to illness, the Honorary President, Sir Hugh Shaw Stewart, Bart., was unable to propose the Immortal Memory, and Mr Gemmell, the president, stepped into the breach.

The finances of the Club are in a satisfactory condition.

The Club visited the Rosebery Burns Club in Glasgow on December 11th, 1906, when a very pleasant evening was spent.

SYLLABUS—SESSION 1907-8.

1907.
Oct. 30. Annual Meeting. Election of Office-bearers, &c.
Nov. 20. Ladies' Night. Lecture Recital, "A Causerie on Wit and Humour"—Mr Walter Weir, Glasgow.
,, 29. St. Andrew's Festival.
Dec. 10. Visit of Robert Burns Club, Glasgow.
1908.
Jan. 9. Lecture, "Burns's School-books"—Mr John Gray Thomson, F.E.I.S. (Rector, Neilson Institution, Paisley).
,, 24. 106th Annual Celebration.
Feb. 26. Ladies' Night. Glasgow Concert Party—Introduced by Mr Ernest Brown.
Mar. 18. Lecture, "The Jacobites and Jacobite Song" (illustrated)—Mr Hugh Mackintosh.
Apr. 22 Quarterly Meeting.

WHITBURN BURNS CLUB.

On September 28, 1906, we held our first meeting of the session. After a few remarks by our president, Mr J. Greig, who occupied the chair, he called upon the Bard, Mr Jas. McHarg, for a paper which he had prepared during the summer months, and it was a great treat to all the members present. Other papers were given by President J. Greig, Mr Peter Peace, and various musical entertainments by members and friends, all of which were very highly appreciated.

On January 18, 1907, we held our first annual competition in the Whitburn Town Hall for school children under the age of fourteen years for singing and reciting. We had over thirty for singing and about the same number for reciting from Burns's Works. The chair was occupied by our hon. vice-president, G. S. MacKnight, Esq. The following accompanied him to the platform:—The Rev. Mr and Mrs Buchanan, Rev. Mr J. Glover, Provost A. Craig, Mr Patterson, B.A., and Pres. John Greig. The judge was for singing Mr Ed. Edwards, organist and teacher of music. Great credit is due Mr Paterson and his staff of teachers, who took great interest in the training of the children in their various pieces. Mrs Buchanan presented the prizes to the successful competitors. The Hon. Vice-president gave an admirable speech on the Poet and History of our club, which was highly interesting to all. We had a surplus of over £4 after defraying all expenses in connection with our competition. Of that sum we have distributed £2 to the old and infirm of the town.

Our Burns Supper was held on January 25, in Cross Tavern. Mr John Greig, president, occupied the chair, and Mr P. Peace acted as croupier. After supper the chairman asked the secretary to exchange friendly greetings with kindred clubs. Every one was pleased at the great success of this our first Burns Supper.

Our outing was a drive to Stirling, by Laurieston, Airth, Alloa, returning by Bannockburn, Torwood, Camelon, and Falkirk, on July 15, 1907. Every one was highly delighted with their day's outing.

ALLAN JOHNSTON, *Secy.*

LONDON BURNS CLUB.

The committee have decided to have medals for the members of the Club, the die for which has been purchased by them at their own expense, and they have kindly handed it over as a gift, and it is now the property of the Club.

SYLLABUS—SESSION 1907-8.

1907.
Oct. 5. Business and Social Meeting—Cannon Street Hotel.
,, 26. Hallowe'en Bohemian Concert—Great Hall, Cannon Street Hotel.
Dec. 7. Smoking Concert—Cannon Street Hotel.
1908.
Jan. 25. Anniversary Dinner—Caledonian Room, Holborn Restaurant.
Feb. 29. Cinderella Dance—Pillar Hall, Cannon Street Hotel.
Mar. 28. Bohemian Concert—Great Hall, Cannon Street Hotel.
May —. Annual Business Meeting—Cannon Street Hotel.
June —. Annual Excursion.

DUBLIN BURNS CLUB.

The Annual General Meeting was held in the Library, Sackville Hall, on Saturday evening, 1st June, 1907, Mr T. A. Stodart, president in the chair. The Secretarial report embraced a synopsis of the functions leading to the Institution and Federation of the Club in 1905.

The Burns Anniversary Dinner, held in the Gresham Hotel, was graced by the presence of ladies, and the Committee's decision in accordance amply justified. 176 were present, and the toast of the evening was proposed by Dr Wm. Wallace, M.A., editor of the *Glasgow Herald.*

We have been fortunate for our next Annual Celebration to secure the promise of Sir Robert Cranston, D.L., of Edinburgh, to propose "The Immortal Memory of Burns."

The Club's subscription to the Auld Brig o' Ayr fund, supplemented by the President's collection, amounted to £8 17s 6d.

SYLLABUS—Session 1907-8.

1907.
Nov. 8. "At Home," D.B.C., Sackville Street.
Dec. 13. "Smoker," Wynn's Hotel, Lr. Abbey Street.
1908.
Jan. 25. Anniversary Dinner, Gresham Hotel.
Feb. 14. Paper and Concert, College Restaurant, College Street.
Mar. 13. Dance, D.B.C., Sackville Street.
April —. General Meeting and Smoker, Wynn's Hotel, Lr. Abbey Street.

John Farquhar, *Hon. Secy.*

NOTES AND QUERIES.

COLONEL DE PEYSTER, COMMANDER OF DUMFRIES VOLUNTEERS.

It is a most interesting fact, and one I think known to very few of Burns's admirers in Canada, that the Commander of the Dumfries Volunteers, n which the Poet was a private, was a gallant old officer who earlier in life had greatly distinguished himself in America and served his King and country for some considerable time in Canada. This old veteran was Colonel Arentz Schuyler De Peyster, and it is interesting to note that he was something of a poet himself. A volume of his is to be found in the interesting collection of books at the Chateau de Ramezay in this city. He was descended from a Huguenot family settled in America, and was, by the way, an ancestor of the Lighthalls of this city.* Colonel De Peyster commanded at Detroit, Michilimackinac, and at several points in Upper Canada, during the Seven Years' War, when he distinguished himself by detaching the Indians from the service of the French. After being promoted to the rank of Colonel, and commanding for many years the 8th Regiment, he retired to Dumfries, the native town of Mrs De Peyster, the faithful follower of his fortunes in every situation, whether among savage Indians in the then Canadian wilds, or in camp and besieged city. She was originally a Miss McMurdo, daughter of a Provost of Dumfries, and sister of John McMurdo, the friend of Burns. Retiring from the army, Colonel De Peyster took up house at Mavis Grove, near Dumfries. At the stormy period of the French Revolution, when French invasion of Britain was threatened, the zeal and talents of Colonel De Peyster were again called into exercise in the embodying and training of the First Regiment of Dumfries Volunteers. On this occasion his military ardour completely revived, and so successfully did he labour in his vocation that in the course of a very few months his associates in arms were a very creditable body of men indeed. It was at this time that Burns wrote his song, "Does Haughty Gaul Invasion Threat," in which we find those famous lines :—

"Be Britain still to Britain true,
Among oursel's united,
For never but by British hands
Maun British wrongs be righted."

Colonel De Peyster was a warm admirer of Burns, and during the Poet's last illness made enquiries daily as to the Poet's condition. From his sick room Burns indited to him a poetic reply to one of his enquiries, the piece beginning :—

> "My honoured Colonel, deep I feel
> Your interest in the Poet's weal."

You will remember that at his death Burns was accorded a military funeral, and Colonel De Peyster commanded the Dumfries Volunteers when the body of their illustrious comrade was borne to its last resting place. Colonel De Peyster died at Dumfries in November, 1822, at the age of 96 or 97. Many members of the regiment, old comrades of Burns, were surviving in Dumfries when the Colonel passed away, and to mark their esteem and regard for his memory, the officers resumed the uniforms long laid aside, while a party of privates carried his body to the grave, supported by the staff of the Dumfries Militia.

[*Montreal Standard*, December 1st, 1906.]

HIGHLAND MARY'S BIBLES.

When Highland Mary died—cut off suddenly by fever at Greenock, in October, 1786—the volumes were taken care of by her mother, who did not pass away till August, 1828. Several years before her death, Mrs Campbell had presented the Bible to Mary's surviving sister, Anne Campbell, the wife of James Anderson, a stone-mason. William Anderson, son of James Anderson and Anne Campbell, sailed from Greenock for New York in April, 1834, with the precious two-volume Bible in his possession. On board this vessel as a passenger was Mr J. C. Becket, a well-known Montrealer. A few days after Mr Anderson's arrival in New York he proceeded to Upper Canada, and settled on a piece of land in the township of Caledon, about fifty miles east of the city of Toronto, where he resided in 1840. Mr Anderson was in poor circumstances, but apart from the hope of obtaining some pecuniary aid from the sale of the Bible, he entertained the laudable desire of seeing it placed in some fit repository. With that view, he sent it to his fellow-passenger, Mr J. C. Becket, of Montreal. Here a subscription was opened, and the sum of £25 subscribed by the countrymen of Burns in this city, for which sum they obtained the Bible and the lock of Highland Mary's hair. At a meeting of the subscribers it was unanimously resolved that the volumes should be forwarded to the Provost of Ayr for the purpose of having them deposited in the Poet's Monument at Ayr.

Mr Robert Weir, jnr., a prominent Montreal journalist, acted as chairman of the committee of subscribers, and forwarded the Bible with the lock of Highland Mary's hair, in a box, by the *Mohawk*, Captain Millar, bound for

Glasgow, addressed to his father, Mr Robert Weir, of that city, requesting him to forward the box to the Provost of Ayr (Provost Limond), so that the Bible might be deposited in the Monument. There is a certificate alongside of the Bible, signed by the Provost and Magistrates of Ayr, and one or two other gentlemen, dated December, 1840, bearing testimony "that the volumes had been delivered, in the presence of the parties subscribing the certificate, by Mr Weir, senr., of Glasgow, into the hands of David Limond, Esq., of Dalbair, Provost of Ayr."

[*Montreal Standard*, Decr. 1, 1906.]

A LINK WITH THE BURNS-BEGG FAMILY.

On the late Miss Margaret Notman, who died at Ormiston, in East Lothian, on Saturday, at the age of 86, an interesting link with the Burns-Begg family has been broken. She had no difficulty in remembering William Begg's appointment, under the patronage of the Earl of Hopetoun, to Ormiston Parish School. The Countess of Hopetoun established a sewing-class in connection with the school, and allowed Mrs Begg-Burns's sister £20 a year for training girl pupils in the art of sewing. When Begg left his school and went abroad, his mother, Mrs Begg, and her two daughters set up a dress-making business in Tranent. The daughters returned to Ayrshire, but the mother was buried in Ormiston Churchyard. Miss Notman was the last of Mrs Burns's sewing-class pupils at Ormiston Parish School.—ROBERT MURDOCH-LAWRANCE, 71 Bon-Accord Street, Aberdeen.

[The *Huntly Express*, 27th September, 1907.]

"A LINK WITH THE BURNS-BEGG FAMILY."

With reference to a par. in our Tuesday's issue, headed "A link with the Burns-Begg family," we are favoured by Mr James Smith, Raemoir, Ayr, with the following interesting letter:—

"In glancing over your paper last night I stumbled upon the enclosed paragraph, which I find in some particulars, at least, to be incorrect. Mrs Begg was buried at Alloway. I still possess the letter inviting me to be present at her funeral, of which I send you a copy:—

'Bridgehouse, near Ayr, 6th December, 1858.

'Sir,—My mother, Isabella Burns, died here on Saturday morning at half-past eight o'clock. The favour of your company on Thursday, 9th inst., at one o'clock afternoon, to accompany her remains to Alloway Churchyard will oblige, Sir, your most obedient servant, JOHN BEGG.'

"I was present at the funeral. She was buried in the same grave as her grandfather. In digging the grave they came upon what was supposed to be the skull of her grandfather, which I saw them carefully replace. Beside the grave I got into conversation with an old man who was present at Burns's funeral. He was then, he said, a lad about 14 years of age, and, he added, 'I believe I am the only man alive that can tell the tale'—and I believe I am the only man alive who can say that he talked with a man who was present at Burns's funeral.

"I hold an original stereoscopic slide (also several copies) of Mrs Begg; it is perfect, only the hands are blurred. The photographer told me he could not keep her from twirling her fingers. I have also photos. of the Misses Begg. They are much more modern."

BISHOP GEDDES AND ROBERT BURNS.

In "The Catholics of Scotland" (p. 447), by the Rev. Æneas M'Donell Dawson, LL.D., F.R.S., there is an interesting passage in reference to Bishop Geddes's appreciation and patronage of the immortal Burns at a comparatively early stage of the Poet's career, and which will serve to illustrate the disposition of the famous Bishop. The author observes:—"We seldom read in the history of our Bishops of their taking any concern in matters beyond the sphere of their ecclesiastical duties and occupations. Hence it gives all the more pleasure to find the accomplished Bishop Geddes expressing his appreciation of a rising author who came, in due time, to be recognised as the Poet of Scotland. Genius only is the judge of genius; and we set down the words of no ordinary critic when we record the opinion which Bishop Geddes entertained of the poetical ability of Robert Burns. The capital of Scotland was, at the time, 1787, a seat of literary taste and fashionable society. The Ayrshire Bard had just emerged from his rural privacy, and was a welcome guest in the brilliant circles of the time. Bishop Geddes, writing to Mr Thomson, the agent of the mission at Rome, thus spoke of the youthful poet who was destined to become so celebrated:—'One Burns, an Ayrshire ploughman, has lately appeared as a very good poet. One edition of his works has been sold very rapidly, and another, by subscription, is in the press.' Repeating the news to the same correspondent, the Bishop says:—'There is an excellent poet started up in Ayrshire, where he has been a ploughman. He has made many excellent poems in old Scotch, which are now in the press for the third time. I shall send them to you. His name is Burns. He is only twenty-eight years of age. He is in town just now, and I supped with him at Lord Monboddo's, where I conversed a good deal with him, and think him a man of uncommon genius; and he has, as yet, time, if he lives, to cultivate it.'

The good Bishop, moreover, showed his appreciation by taking an active interest in the young Poet. In the subscription list prefixed to the Edinburgh edition of Burns's poems, published in 1787, are to be found the Scotch colleges and monasteries abroad, beginning with Valladolid, of which Bishop Geddes had been so long Principal. No other than the kindly Bishop could have caused them to be inserted. The Poet was not ungrateful. He addressed a very interesting letter to the Bishop, in which is preserved the memory of this obliging act, as well as of the friendship that had arisen between the Bishop and the Bard. We learn also from the same letter that, at the time it was written, the Bishop's copy of the poems was in Burns's possession, for the purpose of having inserted some additional poems in the Poet's own hand. It is also stated that Burns looked forward to the pleasure of meeting the Bishop at Edinburgh in the course of the following month."

[H. Duff MacWilliam, London.]

THE DESCENDANTS OF ROBERT BURNS AT BORNEO.

There is an interest attached to all that relates to the great Poet and the unsuccessful ploughman which extends over the whole Anglo-Saxon race. The little fact which we are about to state may, therefore, be worth noticing. For some time there had been travelling in the interior of the remote island of Borneo, and sojourning among its rude people of head-hunters, a young man of the name of Burns, and this young man was the grandson of Robert Burns and "bonny Jean." This adventurous youth has not only been hospitably and kindly treated by the rude Dyaks, but a prince of the Kayan nation, the most powerful of the island, has given him one of his daughters to wife; so that the future biographers of Robert Burns will, in all human likelihood, be able to enumerate among his descendants those of a Bornean prince. Mr Burns has discovered mines of antimony and coal fields in Borneo, more extensive than any in the world, out of America. He seems, moreover, to be not only a person of great enterprise, but also a man of intelligence and good education; for he has written and published by far the best and most authentic account of Borneo which has hitherto been given to the public. The grandson in short, of him who sang "on the banks of Ayr" is an intrepid and intelligent traveller in the woods of Borneo and on the Equator. We do not think that the Poet could have anticipated this destiny for a descendant, although, for his forefathers, it was among his aspirations that some of them may possibly have followed the Scots kings in the charge of a hostile force or the storming of a breach.—*Daily News.*

[*Glasgow Courier*, 23rd May, 1850.]

Sir,—"Gulielmus Simpson, filius natu secundus Joannis agricolae in parochia de New Cumnock comitatu de Ayr," was a student here in 1777. Query, Can this be "Winsome Willie?" Of course there are *cons*, such as (1) the "p" in the surname, (2) the "secundus," and (3) the "New Cumnock;" but there are also *pros* (1) the father's Christian name, (2) his occupation, (3) the date, 1777, when "Winsome Willie" would be of decent student age, and (4) the fact that he was educated (where more likely than at Glasgow University?) for the Church. If you or Mr Killin, whom I do not know, can throw any light on the point, I shall be greatly obliged. If the identity *could* be established I would have a very interesting item for the Old Matriculation Album, which I have been annotating for some years, and which I hope some day to get published.

[W. Innes Addison, Glasgow University.]

TRIBUTE TO BURNS.

The following poem to the memory of Robert Burns was written in 1805 by John Mitford, R.N., a junior officer serving on board H.M. cutter *Wickham*, Campbeltown Station, who in earlier life served as a midshipman "from St. Vincent to the Nile, during eventful years, beneath the protecting eye of the soul-inspiring Nelson":—

Why seeks the muse the shelter'd glade?
  Why hangs the Poet's lyre unstrung?
The Bard of Nature low is laid,
  And silent is his youthful tongue.

No more his "native wood-notes wild"
  Shall sweetly hail the rising day;
No more shall Scotia's darling child
  On Ayr's green banks enraptured stray.

The rising hill, the lowly dale,
  The hawthorn hedge, or gliding stream,
From which he form'd the varied tale,
  No more shall be the Poet's theme.

No more upon the mountain's brow
  While raves the tempest shall he roam:
And soaring o'er the expanse below,
  In thought ascend his heavenly home.

That heart which beat with love to all,
  Which own'd a just and righteous God,
Now heaves no more at Nature's call,
  But silent rests beneath the sod.

Remembrance oft shall musing tread
  The turf which hides him from her eyes.
And there upon his clay-cold bed,
  Shall burst his widow's heartfelt sighs.

The traveller, too, shall thither come
  In search of him—for ever fled ;
The "Voice of Coila"* now is dumb,
  The breast inspir'd amongst the dead.

But as the soul-lamented bard
  Immortal lives near God on high ;
So shall his fame meet just reward—
  His matchless works can never die.

Far hence be every thought of mirth,
  Whilst o'er his tomb I bend in prayer ;
Bards yet unborn shall sing the worth
  Of him who trod the banks of Ayr.

At sea, near the coast of Ayrshire, 1805.

[*Glasgow Herald*, April 22nd, 1905.]

ROBERT BURNS AGAIN!

According to the latest report, the Bard is discovered to have been a freeman of the burgh of Sanquhar, down South. This is said to have been in 1794, two years before his death.

DEATHS.

"At English Street, Dumfries, on the 19th inst., aged twenty years, Jessie, daughter of Robert Burns, Esq., and a grand-daughter of the Scottish Poet."—[*Glasgow Courier*, 26 Aug., 1847.]

"At Mauchline, on the 10th inst., James Campbell, aged 93, one of the last of the early associates and acquaintances of the far-famed poet Burns."—[*Glasgow Courier*, 19 October, 1848.]

"At sea, on board the ship *Chance*, from Liverpool to Port-Philip, on the 7th Sept. last, Arabella Ann ; on the 8th Sept., Robert Burns ; on the 18th Sept., Arthur Vincent, the only children of Berkeley W. Hutchinson, Esq., Surgeon, government medical officer of the *Chance*, and great grand-children of Robert Burns."—[*Glasgow Courier*, 29th January, 1853.]

"At Milton-next-Gravesend, on the 13th instant, Mary, wife of Major James Glencairn Burns, the eldest daughter of the late William Beckett, Esq., of Enfield, Middlesex."—[*Glasgow Courier*, 21st November, 1844.]

[W. Innes Addison.]

* Burns, in imitation of Ossian, sometimes designated his muse "The Voice of Coila."

BURNS AND THE PARAPHRASES.

A Literary Resurrection.

This is one of the Burns "finds" which is possessed of such a wonderful amount of vitality that we deem it right to give it a place in the *Chronicle*, with the object of rescuing it from that scrapbook private burial which has been the cause of the periodic exhumations which it has undergone ever since its public interment in July, 1847—some two months after its ill-starred birth in the *Free Church Magazine* of May of the year mentioned. It would appear that the "resurrectionists" were again at work towards the end of 1906 or beginning of 1907, seeing that a full report of their operations appeared in the *Dumfries Courier and Herald* of January 9th of the latter year. This report we reproduce in its entirety for future reference in the event of the sepulchre being again disturbed. In nailing the forgery to the counter, we do not ascribe any sinister motive to the "resurrectionists," who, succeeding each other by ordinary generation, unconsciously sin and fall in the same transgression It has gained the persistent currency which characterises it simply through ignorance of the history of our Scottish Psalmody—an ignorance which contrasts strangely with the average Scotsman's familiarity with most of the text of the Psalmody itself. The metrical Psalms have passed through many transitions, and the Paraphrases are not the work of one hand. With the latter, the name of that eccentric man of letters, the Rev. John Logan, is largely connected. He was the intimate friend of Michael Bruce, to whom, on the premature death of the youthful poet, was entrusted his manuscripts with a view to their preparation for publication. Logan was accused of withholding certain of Bruce's compositions—notably the well-known "Ode to the Cuckoo," which he afterwards inserted in a published collection of his own poems. This, as is well known, gave rise to a controversy which has continued down to the present day, though impartial judges are now unanimous in attributing its authorship to Michael Bruce. Most of the paraphrases credited to Burns in the newspaper article

which follows are really the work of Logan. As will be seen, they prove him to have been possessed of high poetic abilities, so nearly approaching genius as to entitle him to a prominent place amongst the minor poets of Scotland :—

We are indebted to Mr John Thomson, of the Hole i' the Wa' Inn, Dumfries, for what we are convinced all genuine students of Burns works will regard as a very remarkable literary resurrection, disclosing as it does the fact, not by any means generally known, that the National Bard bore an important part in making emendations on the Paraphrases, and that to him, therefore, can be attributed some credit for the form in which they appear in our Bibles at the present day. The discovery was made from newspaper cuttings pasted into a scrap book which lately came into Mr Thomson's possession—cuttings which, unfortunately, give no date or indication of origin, but which, from their appearance and other internal evidence, seem to be from some past issues of the *Dumfries Courier* or *Dumfries Herald*, and hence are most probably buried in our own files. It affords us great pleasure to be the means of rescuing the facts they contain from the obscurity and oblivion of the past, and of giving them the wider publicity which they deserve. This resurrection comes at a particularly opportune time, when all other aspects of Robert Burns's life and works have been discussed threadbare, and when speakers at the forthcoming anniversary banquets in honour of the Poet should be glad of this fresh field to which they may direct their attention. Fortunately, these cuttings, which take the form of two distinct articles, are of such a nature that they may be reproduced in their entirety.

The first is as follows :—

An article appears in the *Witness* of Wednesday last [as indicated above, the date is not shown] tending to show that some of the "Paraphrases" of our Scottish Psalmody received their finishing touches from Burns. The following extract shows the ground on which the supposition is founded :—

There appeared in the April number of the *Free Church Magazine* an elaborate and singularly interesting disquisition on

the Paraphrases which attracted very considerable notice, and a good deal of discussion and inquiry. It led one of the readers, a gentleman of Edinburgh, to bring to the shop of the publisher, Mr Johnstone, a manuscript volume which he had found lying among some old hereditary papers, embrowned with the dust of half a century, in a waste corner of his library, and in which a considerable number of the Paraphrases, now embodied in the collection of the General Assembly, were copied in a small and neat, though somewhat commonplace hand. The little brown volume had, to all appearance, at some early stage of its history, a rather narrow escape. Every alternate page had been left blank, for the sake of receiving corrections on the text inscribed on the opposite pages; and a few of these at the wrong end of the volume—as if the delinquent had been a juvenile Hebraist—are scribbled over in thick-set, unseemly lines, with the endless i's and o's of some tyro scribe, who, after his initiation in the mystery of stroke-making, had just set himself for the first time to achieve letters. Luckily, however, his perseverance carried him but a short way into the volume. On the blank pages which his diligence spared, we find corrections on the verse by three different hands—one of these marked by a neat and somewhat feminine character; another by a strong, rough, rather formal one, as if it had been stiffened into mannerism in some writer's office; the third, masculine, massy, mysterious—such a hand as at once arrests the eye of the autographologist, and which catches even the uninitiated, like some strongly-marked countenance which once seen is never forgotten, but returns, selected involuntarily from amid the crowd, to haunt the waking imagination of the spectator, or to fill a prominent place in his dreams. The volume was shown as a curiosity to the Rev. Mr Begg of this city [afterwards the famous Dr Begg]. "I should know that very remarkable handwriting," he said. "The last time I saw it before was in the big ha' Bible of Jean Armour, the wife of Robert Burns." Mr Begg's first charge—that of the Chapel of Maxwelltown—lay in the suburbs of the town of Dumfries. He had among his hearers a grandchild of the Poet, through whom

he had been first led to visit the old lady; and as he learned to derive much pleasure from her conversation, the visit was frequently repeated. There survived but little at the time of the grace or beauty which, in the estimate of the Poet, had distinguished her among the "six proper young belles" of Mauchline, but there remained sound good sense, much intelligence, and a kindly disposition; and, what was better than them all, there was spread over the whole a feeling of genuine seriousness which had not existed in earlier youth. The good old lady, with death full in view, had come to look not unhopefully on the future through the medium of the Word. She read much in her Bible. As Mr Begg entered, on one of his visits, the volume lay before her on the table, in the middle of her neat little sitting room; and when, in the course of the after-conversation, there was reference made to her husband, the good lady, turning over the leaves with a natural sigh, laid open before her visitor the page in which the births and names of her children were recorded in the strong masculine handwriting of their father, the Poet. Even had the hand been a less remarkable one, the circumstances were of themselves sufficient to stamp its peculiarities on the memory of the respected clergyman, her visitor.

The alterations of Burns on our Paraphrases are not many, but characteristic. In some instances a single line, in some a single epithet, gives vigour and motion to a stanza that had crept on lamely and feebly enough before. He touches a dead verse, and straightway, obedient to the virtue that dwells in the true poet, it starts up into life. There is among the songs of Burns a little piece first admitted into the collection of Dr Currie, and republished in almost all the after editions of his works, which is now known not to be his. We refer to the "Farewell to Ayrshire," beginning—

> "Scenes of woe and scenes of pleasure,
> Scenes that former thoughts renew,
> Scenes of woe and scenes of pleasure,
> Now a last and sad adieu."

It was sent by the writer, the late Richard Gall, with the name of Burns attached, to Johnson's Poetical Museum—a

miscellany in which, at a somewhat earlier period, not a few of the genuine songs of Burns did make their first appearance, and the aim of the writer, it has been conjectured, was to draw attention, under the colours of the National Poet, to verses which might have otherwise voyaged on in obscurity without attracting any—an object which has certainly been secured. Criticism, however, has ventured to remark that had not suspicion been thoroughly asleep at the time, there was intrinsic evidence enough in the piece that Burns could not have been the writer. Inane stanzas such as the following are not of the character in which his "deep mouth" had wont to give utterance :—

> "Friends, sae near my bosom ever,
> Ye hae rendered moments dear,
> But, alas! when forced to sever,
> Then the stroke, oh! how severe."

In the amendment in the Paraphrase we find unmistakable marks of the "deep mouth." At how slight an expense of words, for instance, is the following stanza (the 2nd verse of the 50th Paraphrase), redeemed from feebleness and commonplace, and rendered instinct with elegance and vigour! We find from the MS. that it had originally stood thus :—

> "Those bodies, then—corrupted now—
> Shall uncorrupted rise;
> Mortal they fell, but rise to live
> Immortal in the skies."

The magician touches it, and it takes straightway the exquisite form in which we now find it vested in the Assembly's version :—

> "Those bodies that corrupted fell
> Shall uncorrupted rise,
> And mortal forms shall spring to life
> Immortal in the skies."

In some instances we see a broken figure disentangled from the debris in which it had lain, and then repaired and set up in its integrity, as if by a breath. Thus the 26th Paraphrase had begun :—

> "Oh, ye that thirst approach the spring
> Of ever-flowing bliss."

The Poet breathes upon it, and it becomes :—

> " Ho ; ye that thirst approach the spring
> Where living waters flow."

In other cases the smallest sprinkling of words works a mighty change. Thus the 4th and 5th verses of the 6th Paraphrase had originally run as follows :—

> " Though in his garden to the sun
> His boughs with verdure smile,
> Though deeply fixed his spreading roots
> Unshaken stand a while,
> Yet, when from Heaven his sentence flies,
> He's hurried from his place.

As re-written in the hand of Burns, and in part adopted by the Assembly's Committee, the passage runs thus :—

> " Fair in the garden to the sun
> His boughs with blossom smile,
> And, deeply fixed, his spreading roots
> Unshaken stand a while ;
> But forth the sentence flies from heaven
> And sweeps him from his place."

In the second line here, the original words, "boughs with verdure smile," must have been preferred by the committee to the more euphonious "boughs with blossoms smile" of the poet ; and in the concluding line we find a "that" substituted for the "and." The reader will detect similar realterations, which are hardly improvements, in the following stanzas of the 48th Paraphrase. We first give them in the original of the MS. volume :—

> " Now let our souls ascend above
> The fears of guilt and woe ;
> God is for us our friend declared,
> Who then can be our foe ?
> He who His Son, His only Son,
> For us gave up to die,
> Will he withhold a lesser gift,
> Or what is good deny ?
> Behold all blessings sealed in this,
> The highest pledge in love,
> All grace and peace on earth below,
> And endless life above.

Now, who shall dare to charge with guilt
  Whom God hath justified ;
Or who is he that shall condemn
  Since Christ, the Saviour, died ?
He died but He is risen again,
  Triumphant from the grave,
And pleads for us at God's right hand,
  Omnipotent to save.
Then who can e'er divide us more
  From Christ and from His love ! "

The passage in the rendering of Burns runs as follows :—

. . . . .

" The Lord Almighty is our friend,
  And who can prove a foe ?
He who His Son, His only Son,
  Gave for mankind to die,
Will He a lesser gift withhold,
  Or what is good deny ?
Behold the best, the greatest gift,
  Of everlasting love ;
Behold the pledge of peace below,
  And perfect bliss above,
Where is the judge that can condemn,
  Since God hath justified ?
Who shall presume to charge with guilt
  For whom the Saviour died ?
The Saviour died, but rose again
  Triumphant from the grave,
And pleades our cause within the veil,
  Omnipotent to save.
Then who can e'er divide us more
  From Jesus and His love ? "

The second article, which is an editorial comment on the above, and bears the title, " Robert Burns and the Paraphrases," is all the more valuable in respect that it contains proof that the eldest son of the Poet confirmed the conclusions of the late Dr Begg that the emendations were really in the handwriting of his father, although up till then he had been wholly unaware that his father had done the work. The article is as follows :—

Under the title, " Robert Burns and the Paraphrases," we give to-day an article from the *Witness*, which supplies the curious intelligence that the Paraphrases, used every Sabbath in our

Churches, were subjected to the revision of the National Bard; and that many of their best verses owe their chief metrical charm to his fine taste and fervid imagination. To our own mind, proof less convincing than what has been given would have commanded our belief, for, independent of the evidence adduced, we think the circumstances natural and probable in itself. It looks strange, because no biographer of Burns, nor anyone else, appears to have dreamed of it before; but now that it is made known, it is just what might have been expected when we think how admirably his muse, when in solemn mood, was fitted to execute such a task.

That Burns possessed strong devotional feelings is unquestionable, though these were often drowned, if not at last greatly deadened, in the pursuits of pleasure. His temperament was melancholy, his early training was strictly religious, and song-writer and satirist as he was—though in these capacities he gathered unfading laurels—he excelled as much as a Psalmist when he seized the harp and swept its chords after the manner of the sweet singer of Israel. "The Holy Fair" and the "Ordination" represent one phase of his genius, as the "Lass of Ballochmyle" and "Bonnie Jean" represent another; but the "Cottar's Saturday Night," his version of the first, and of part of the ninetieth Psalm, his "Man was made to mourn," his "Despondency," and other poems of a similar cast, are emanations of his mind equally characteristic, and mark him out as the man most qualified to perform a work of such delicacy and difficulty as the revision of the Paraphrases, composed, as these were, by our sweetest poets. The admirers of the minstrel may talk rapturously about "Tam o' Shanter," and represent it as his masterpiece, but over our minds some of the simpler pieces have a more powerful charm. We marvel at the genius which produced the one, but we bow subdued and captive, or feel sublimated and refined, under the spell of the others. The pieces to which we more particularly refer are those to which the bard takes the fine warp of Scripture imagery, and dresses it with the woof spun from his own exuberant fancy, as in the verses:—

"The bridegroom may forget the bride
Was made his wedded wife yestreen ;
The monarch may forget the crown
That on his head an hour has been ;
The mother may forget the child
That smiles sae sweetly on her knee ;
But I'll remember thee, Glencairn,
And a' that thou hast done for me."

And in the version of part of the 90th Psalm, formerly referred to, in which ideas indicated in the original are beautifully adumbrated by the Poet, what could be finer, and, at the same time, more true to the text, than the following verses ?—

"Thou gav'st the word, Thy creature man
Is to existence brought ;
Again Thou say'st, ye sons of men,
Return ye into nought.
Thou lay'st them, with all their cares,
In everlasting sleep,
As with the flood, thou tak'st them all
With overwhelming sweep.
They flourish like the morning flower
In beauty's pride arrayed,
But long ere night comes down it lies
All withered and decayed."

If the Paraphrases possess the homogenous character—and that the best of all of them do so is, we think, very evident—the verses we have quoted are of the same family, and, as is now shown, have had in style and partly in sentiment, a common origin.

Burns's connection with the Paraphrases was first brought to light in consequence of an article regarding them in the *Free Church Magazine* for April [year not stated]. In the number for this month [date awanting] there is a supplementary notice of the Paraphrase containing the following passage :—"In consequence of the first article, a gentleman has kindly sent us a very precious and curious volume, which appears to be a manuscript copy of the poems proposed for admission among the Paraphrases prepared for us by the convener of the committee, Mr James Brown." It is divided into two parts—the first containing those composi-

tions which had obtained the general approbation of the committee on the 1st May, 1778, and the second composed of hymns which had been sent in by members of the committee, and which were afterwards to be considered. The first part contains the old Paraphrases, with a number of translations suggested for the first time. The second is altogether new, and includes many of the twenty that were ultimately adopted. One volume exhibits the alterations which were made by various hands on the old Scriptural songs, and the suggested Paraphrases; and did we feel it tending to any practical use, we might give a curious account of the process of transmutation So far, we have been astonished to find that not a few of the alterations adopted in the new Paraphrases are from the pen of Robert Burns, and are written in our volume by his own hand.

The magazine contains a lithographed facsimile of alterations suggested by Burns on the 35th Paraphrase, old version, and on our submitting it and the explanatory notice to the Poet's eldest son on Monday last he was not a little astonished. "That is his hand, there can be no doubt of that, no man ever wrote like Burns, but I never knew before that my father had been consulted regarding the Paraphrases. It is certainly very strange, but it is no doubt perfectly true." The evidence appeared to Mr Burns to be indisputable, and in the course of conversation regarding it, he said he recollected distinctly that the Poet was very fond of the Paraphrases, and had caused him when quite a child to learn the first one, beginning—"Let heaven arise, let earth appear, said the Creator Lord," for, remarked Mr Burns, the line ran in this way then, and not "said the Almighty Lord," as it does now, and from early association, and because the term is more appropriate, I prefer greatly the old version of this passage to the new.

We left the son of the Bard wondering yet gratified with this new chapter opened up in the curiosities of literature.

DESCENDANTS OF BURNS RESIDED AT GUELPH, ONT.

In 1885 there lived in Guelph, Ont., Mrs Jean Burns Brown, a grand-daughter of Robert Burns, along with her little daughter, Jean Armour Brown. Mrs Brown was interviewed in January, 1876, by Mr Wm. Campbell, of Toronto, and his interview appeared in the *New York Scotsman*, from which paper it was copied into the *Toronto Globe* at Burns anniversary time the same year. Mrs Brown had a number of relics of the Poet in her possession, and among them a drinking glass, one of the old-fashioned "dram" glasses so familiar to our forefathers. The Poet had often quaffed the "barley bree" from this identical glass. Mrs Brown gave Mr Campbell a photograph of herself and her daughter. The little girl had the fine dark, glowing eyes of her illustrious ancestor. Mrs Brown and her daughter removed from Guelph to Philadelphia, and subsequently went back to Scotland. They now reside in the house in Dumfries where the Poet died.

In 1859, it is on record that there resided at Goderich, Ont., Mr William Begg, eldest son of William Begg and his wife, who was Isabella Burns, the youngest and favourite sister of Robert Burns.

[*Montreal Standard*, December 1, 1906.]

SIR HUGH ALLAN AND COLONEL STEVENSON CONNECTED WITH THE POET.

That there are other descendants of Burns in Canada there is not a doubt; I have not had time to gather full or accurate information concerning such. Suffice it to say that the late Sir Hugh Allan's family on the mother's side were descended from the family of Brown, one of whom, Agnes Brown, was the Poet's mother.

When the history of Canada is written, when her rise, her progress and civilisation are recorded, the name of Allan will

stand out as one of the most honourable in the roll of the friends of the Dominion. To the Allans may be ascribed much of the present prosperity of Quebec and Montreal.

Lieutenant-Colonel Alex. A. Stevenson, whom we all delight to honour, and who has done much for Montreal, is also a connection, the Colonel's grandmother being a sister of Agnes Brown, the Poet's mother. Just here I may mention that on the occasion of the centenary of the Poet's birth, 1859, a monster gathering was held in the old Bonescours Hall. Sir John Rose presided, and Colonel Stevenson was secretary of the meeting. All these years the gallant Colonel has striven to do all in his power to honour and perpetuate the memory of Burns, and just here let me remind our citizens that it is to Colonel Stevenson we owe our Mount Royal Park, for did he not demonstrate its usefulness in the very practical way of taking his Battery to the top of Mount Royal and firing therefrom the first royal salute, and this before any roads were made?

When the centenary of the death of Burns was commemorated by an imposing and appropriately solemn celebration in the Old Country, two Scottish-Canadian organisations were represented by delegations, viz., the Caledonian Society of Montreal and the Caledonian Society of Toronto. The Montreal Society was represented by Colonel Stevenson, the late Mr Andrew M'Allister, Mr Gordon Drummond, and Mr D. MacKay. Both societies contributed handsome wreaths. It was on this occasion that Lord Rosebery's now famous oration on Burns was delivered.

[*Montreal Standard*, December 1, 1906.]

RELATIVES OF ROBERT BURNS IN ABERDEEN.

Some time ago there appeared in our columns an interesting article dealing with a relative of Burns in the person of Mrs Low, Western Road, Woodside. It has just come to our knowledge that we have in our midst another relative of the Scottish bard, a Mrs Coutts, residing at 106 John Street. The interesting lady is

a granddaughter of a cousin of the poet's mother—precisely the same relationship as Mrs Low, who is cousin to Mrs Coutts. Mrs Coutts' and also Mrs Low's grandmother, Agnes Brown, was married to a William Walker, a small manufacturer in Stonehaven, and her only son William was Mrs Coutts' father. William was educated in Stonehaven, and for a time assisted his father in business. He then went to Fraserburgh, and was engaged as a schoolmaster for several years. He married in Fraserburgh and subsequently became lessee of the Union Inn there, where for many years he conducted a successful business. Ann Walker, or Mrs Coutts, was born in the Union Inn, and she has happy recollections of her grandmother coming to reside at the inn on the death of her grandfather, Mr Walker, Stonehaven. For fourteen years—till the time of her death—old Mrs Walker lived with the family at Fraserburgh, and Mrs Coutts remembers the pleasure she as a child had in romping with her grandmother, she being considered "grannie's pet." In the evenings the children would gather round the old lady and listen to many stories regarding Burns, and hear her reciting some of his unpublished verses. Unfortunately, Mrs Coutts cannot recall all that may have been spoken then of the Poet, but she has distinct recollections of hearing of the journeyings southwards of several of her relatives on visits to the Burns family at Dumfries. Mrs Coutts possesses an interesting heirloom in a large old Bible which she received from the hands of her grandmother while she lay on her death-bed. Mrs Coutts states that on the fly-leaf of the Bible there was much interesting information regarding the family written, but unfortunately the leaf, having become loose, had got lost. She also cherishes a number of other relics which belonged to her grandmother, including an old-fashioned chair and several earthenware articles. Mrs Coutts is the widow of Mr S. Coutts, who died two years ago. She has a family of two daughters and one son.—*Aberdeen Daily Journal.*

ROBERT ANDERSON.

CHAIR OF SCOTTISH HISTORY AND LITERATURE.

JUST as our last sheets are passing through the press, we learn that a meeting of the Burns Federation has been called, in Kilmarnock, for Monday, 6th January, 1908, to elect a president in room of the late Mr David Murray; and to make arrangements for the promotion of the scheme for the establishment of a Chair of Scottish History and Literature. So far as our information goes, the resolutions submitted in support of the latter will be in the way of recommending the scheme to the Burns Clubs as part of their business at the approaching Anniversary Meetings. What was so enthusiastically and successfully accomplished by the clubs in response to Lord Rosebery's appeal on behalf of the Auld Brig o' Ayr is a signal example of what concerted effort on the part of the Federation is capable of; and it is fervently to be hoped that a similar effort will be put forth, and a like measure of success attained in connection with the proposed Chair. The attention of chairmen and secretaries is requested to the circulars about to be issued, which will doubtless contain full particulars and instructions.

EDITOR.

The Burns Federation.

INSTITUTED 1885.

Hon. President—The Right Hon. The EARL OF ROSEBERY, K.G., K.T.
Hon. Vice-president—Captain D. SNEDDON, V.D., J.P.

OFFICE-BEARERS.

President—D. MURRAY, M.A., B.Sc., Kilmarnock.
Vice-presidents—Sir JAMES SIVEWRIGHT, K.C.M.G.
WILLIAM WALLACE, LL.D., 36 Lilybank Gardens, Glasgow.
Dr WM. FINDLAY, 19 Westercraigs, Dennistoun.
JAS. M'CULLOCH, 13 Clarence Drive, Hyndland Rd., Kelvinside, Glasgow.
J. B. MORISON, Burns Club, 36 Nicholson Street, Greenock.
THOMAS BROWN, Maryfield, Lowwaters, Hamilton.
J. S. JAMIESON, 27 Broomhill Drive, Partick.
HUGH ALEXANDER, J.P., Eastfield House, Rutherglen.
J. JEFFREY HUNTER, 109 Bath Street, Glasgow.
A. M'CALLUM, *News* Office, Pollokshaws.
ALEXANDER POLLOCK, 52 West Nile Street, Glasgow.
JOSEPH MARTIN, 163 West George Street, Glasgow.
Alderman WM. BURNS, J.P., Normanhurst, Stockton Rd., Sunderland.
W. H. TURNER, Mossgiel, 9 The Oaks, Sunderland.
Hon. Secretary—THOS. AMOS, M.A., 19 Glebe Road, Kilmarnock.
Assistant Secretary—GEO. A. INNES, F.E.I.S., Kilmarnock.
Hon. Treasurer—JOSEPH BROCKIE, J.P., Royal Bank, Kilmarnock.
Editor "Burns Chronicle"—D. M'NAUGHT, J.P., Benrig, Kilmaurs.
Auditor—GEORGE DUNLOP, J.P., Kilmarnock.

CONSTITUTION.

1. The *Federation* shall consist of an Hon. President, Executive Council, and the affiliated members of each Club.

2. The *Executive Council* shall consist of a President, Vice-presidents, Hon. Secretary, Hon. Treasurer, Editor of Annual *Burns Chronicle*, and two Auditors—all of whom shall be elected annually and be eligible for re-election—also of the President, Vice-president, and Secretary, or any other three

members of, and nominated by, each affiliated Club, and other gentlemen of eminence as Burnsites nominated by the Executive.

3. All Past Presidents of the Federation shall *ex-officio* be members of the Executive Council.

OBJECTS OF THE FEDERATION.

1. To strengthen and consolidate the bond of fellowship existing amongst the members of Burns Clubs and kindred societies by universal affiliation.

2. To superintend the publication of works relating to Burns.

3. To acquire a fund for the purchase and preservation of Holograph Manuscripts and other Relics connected with the Life and Works of the Poet, and for other purposes of a like nature, as the Executive Council may determine.

RULES.

1. The Headquarters of the Federation shall be at Kilmarnock, the town in which the Federation was inaugurated and carried to a practical issue, and which contains the only properly organised Burns Library and Museum in the United Kingdom.

2. Properly organised Burns Clubs, St. Andrew's Societies, and kindred Associations may be admitted to the Federation by application in writing to the Hon. Secretary enclosing copy of Constitution and Rules.

3. The Registration Fee is 21s, on receipt of which the Diploma of the Federation shall be issued, after being numbered and signed by the President and Hon. Secretary.

4. Members of every Burns Club or Kindred Association registered by the Federation shall be entitled to receive a pocket Diploma on payment of 1s. *(These payments are final—not annual.)*

5. The Funds of the Federation shall be vested in the Executive Council for the purposes before-mentioned.

6. A meeting of the Executive Council shall be held annually during the Summer or Autumn Months at such place as may be agreed upon by the Office-bearers, when reports on the year's transactions shall be submitted by the Hon. Secretary and Hon. Treasurer, and Office-bearers elected for the ensuing year.

7. A meeting of the Office-bearers shall take place some time before the Annual Meeting of the Executive Council to make the necessary arrangements for the same.

8. That each Federated Club shall subscribe 10s 6d per annum towards the fund for the publication of the *Burns Chronicle*.

9. Notice of any amendment or alteration of the Constitution or Rules of the Federation, to be considered at the Annual Meeting, must be sent in writing to the Hon. Secretary not later than the 31st March.

BENEFITS.

1. Registered Clubs are supplied free with copies of newspapers containing accounts of meetings, demonstrations, &c., organised, conducted, or attended by the Executive Council of the Federation, and of the Annual Meeting of the Kilmarnock Burns Club.

2. Exchange of fraternal greetings on the anniversary of the Poet's natal day.

3. Members of Registered Clubs who have provided themselves with pocket Diplomas are entitled to attend meetings of all Clubs on the Roll of the Federation, they being subject to the rules of the Club visited, but having no voice in its management unless admitted a member according to local form.

4. Members are entitled to be supplied through the Secretaries of their respective Clubs with copies of all works published by the Federation, at a discount of 33⅓ per cent.

BOOKS PUBLISHED BY THE FEDERATION.

Burns's Holograph Manuscripts in the Kilmarnock Monument Museum, with Notes		1889	1s 6d
Burns's Chronicle and Club Directory		1892	1s 0d
,,	,,	1893	1s 6d
,,	,,	1894	1s 6d
,,	,,	1895	1s 6d
,,	,,	1896	1s 6d
,,	,,	1897	1s 6d
,,	,,	1898	1s 6d
,,	,,	1899	1s 6d
,,	,,	1900	1s 6d
,,	,, (out of print)	1901	1s 6d
,,	,,	1902	1s 6d
,,	,,	1903	1s 6d
,,	,,	1904	1s 6d
,,	,,	1905	1s 6d
,,	,,	1906	1s 6d
,,	,,	1907	1s 6d
,,	,,	1908	1s 6d

A few copies of the back vols. may still be had on application to the Hon. Secretary. Increased prices are charged when the vols. are out of print.

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING

OF THE

BURNS FEDERATION.

TOWN HALL, SUNDERLAND,
7th September, 1907.

THE annual meeting of the Executive Council of the Burns Federation was held here to-day at 10 a.m. Before the business meeting, the Mayor of Sunderland (Councillor S. M. Swan) gave the delegates a hearty welcome to the town. In his speech he paid a high tribute to the work done in Sunderland by Scotsmen. Mr D. Murray, M.A., B.Sc., president of the Federation, made an able and eloquent reply on behalf of the delegates. He said that the great desire of the Federation was to represent what was best in the life of their National Poet.

The business meeting began at 10.30 a.m.

The following members from Federated Clubs were present :—

No. 0, Kilmarnock—Messrs Murray, M'Naught, Brockie, Amos, and Innes.

No. 9, Glasgow Royalty—James M'Culloch and John Drake.

No. 14, Dundee—J. A. Purves and Hugh Ross.

No. 21, Greenock—Alex. Ramsay and A. Kerr Bruce.

No. 36, Glasgow Rosebery—Wm. Allan, J. Gartshore Scott, P. Smith, jun., George Armour, and Ronald Johnstone.

No. 50, Stirling—Councillor Ridley Sandeman and J. Fernie Oswald.

No. 57—Glasgow Carlton—Wm. Renfrew.

No. 89, Sunderland—W. H. Turner, Rev. Alex. Wylie Blue, Dr James Waterston, J.P., Dr David Ridpath, Dr J. Chalmers, H. M'Coll, W. A. Culshaw, W. P. Eastwood, A. W. Semple, G. Mackay, G. Mitchell, M. Neilson, and R. Archbold.

No. 139, Glasgow National Burns Club—James Ballantyne, Joseph Martin, and J. Jeffrey Hunter.

No. 140, Pollokshaws—Ex-Provost R. Wilson, J.P.

No. 150, Kilmarnock Jolly Beggars—Andw. Sinclair and Robt. J. Green.

No. 151, Old Kilpatrick—John Brock.

No. 158, Darlington—R. M. Liddell.

No. 159, Walker-on-Tyne—J. M'Kay, J. Keith, H. F. Caldwell, and A. M'Bay.

No. 163, Gateshead—E. Bennett, D. Bain, A. Moffitt, and G. Porter.

No. 165, Wallsend—Arch. Gillespie, John M'Donald, and Robt. Johnson.

No. 166, Cleveland—A. T. Rutherford, A. M'Callum, and A. Thompson.

Also from Bishop Auckland—R Hull, R. Gibbon, R. Walker, and G. Emmerson.

The Secretary intimated apologies from Captain D Sneddon, V.D., J.P., T. Brown, A. M'Callum, Alex. Pollock, and the following Clubs: Duntocher, Kinning Park, Kilmarnock Bellfield, Paisley, Elgin, Caledonia, East Stirlingshire, Glasgow Caledonian, Row, Gourock, Burns Howff (Dumfries), Cowdenbeath, and Glasgow Mauchline.

The minutes of the last annual meeting, and of the Committee meetings held during the year, were read and approved of.

Mr T. Amos, hon. secretary, read the annual report. In this, appropriate reference was made to the death of ex-Provost Mackay, Kilmarnock, the late president, and of the retiral of Captain Sneddon from the duties of secretary. During the year twelve clubs had joined the Federation, and the roll now numbered 166. Seven of the new clubs hailed from south of the Border, and six of these belonged to the district tapped by the Sunderland meeting. This in itself amply justified the experiment of holding the meeting in England. He referred briefly to the result of the Song Competition, the part the Federation had taken in the national movement to preserve the Auld Brig of Ayr, and recapitulated the work done by the officials in the movement for the establishment of a Chair of Scottish Literature and History. In conclusion, he said that the united action of the clubs in the Auld Brig agitation had brought their members closer together, and had given increased vitality to many of the clubs.

Mr Joseph Brockie, hon. treasurer, submitted his report. The income for the year amounted to £73 6s 11d, and the expenditure to £72 0s 8d, showing a credit balance of £1 6s 3d. The total amount at the credit of the Federation now stood at £242 18s 10d. Mr Brockie also intimated that £241 13s 10d had passed through his hands in aid of the Auld Brig Fund, but this was only a small fraction of the sum subscribed by Federated Clubs, as many had sent their contributions direct to the Ayr Committee.

Mr D. M'Naught, editor of the *Burns Chronicle*, in his report, said that the circulation of the *Chronicle* was increasing from year to year, and that

last year's financial returns were very satisfactory. The fund placed at his disposal had made his task much easier, and its beneficent effect was apparent in the character of the articles. He asked for the renewal of the grant on behalf of the *Chronicle*.

Mr Bennett, Gateshead, suggested that a pocket club directory would be a great convenience, and the Editor promised to see if it would be possible to make an "inset" in the *Chronicle* which would serve this purpose.

Mr M'Donald, Wallsend, thought that specimen copies of the *Chronicle* should be sent to new clubs.

On the motion of Mr Andrew Sinclair, seconded by Mr Joseph Martin, it was unanimously agreed to renew the grant of £25 for the Publication Fund.

Mr J. Jeffrey Hunter reported on the work done for the preservation of the Auld Brig of Ayr.

The total fund now amounted to £10,317 17s 8d.

In Glasgow, £843 7s 1d had been raised by Burns Clubs and the *Herald* Shilling Fund; and the Lord Provost's Fund had amounted to £1524 13s 3d. The alarming reports of the condition of the bridge had been much exaggerated, and the engineer thought that it would be easily repaired next summer. He hoped that the Burns Clubs, which had done so much to repair the bridge, would be present when it was re-opened. If there was a surplus, there were many good objects, such as the Chair of Scottish Literature and History, to which the money could be given.

Mr M'Donald, Wallsend, moved a hearty vote of thanks to Mr Jeffrey Hunter for his report.

Mr James Ballantyne, Glasgow National Club, in a speech on the proposed Chair of Scottish Literature and History, reviewed the previous history of the movement, and brought forward arguments to show the necessity of such a chair. For the endowment of the chair the sum of £15,000 would be needed, but he thought that sum might be obtained if spread over a number of years. He approved of Mr Hunter's idea of the payment by members of an extra shilling a year for this object. He moved that the Federation join with other Scottish patriotic societies in carrying out this work.

Ex-Provost Wilson, J.P., Pollokshaws, seconded, and suggested that pressure should be brought to bear on the teaching of Scottish History in Scottish schools. The President assured the meeting from his personal knowledge that Scottish History was not neglected in schools.

Mr W. H. Turner, Sunderland, thought that the Federation should not take a second place in this movement. Whoever they merged with, let them not lose their individuality.

On the motion of Mr Renfrew, Glasgow Carlton Club, it was unanimously agreed to amend Rule II. of the Constitution so that the second part of the Rule will now read "also President, Vice-president and Secretary, *or any other three members of and nominated by each affiliated club.*"

On the motion of Mr A. Kerr Bruce, Greenock, a cordial vote of thanks was given to the officials for their work, and the president replied on their behalf. Councillor Ridley Sandeman, Stirling, moved the reappointment of the office-bearers. This was agreed to. Mr D. M'Naught, seconded by Mr Jas. M'Culloch, moved that the name of Mr W. H. Turner, president of the Sunderland Club, be added to the list of vice-presidents, and this was unanimously accepted. The Hon. Secretary intimated that next Annual Meeting would be held, by invitation, at St. Andrews, on the first Saturday of September.

SMOKING CONCERT, LUNCHEON, AND DRIVE.

On the evening of Friday, 6th September, the delegates who had come from a distance were invited by the members of the Sunderland Club to a Smoking Concert in the Palatine Hotel. The chair was taken by Mr W. H. Turner, who presided over a large and enthusiastic gathering of Scotsmen. An interesting programme of songs, recitations, and pipe music was listened to with evident pleasure.

Immediately after the business meeting, an excellent photograph of the delegates and lady friends was taken in front of the Winter Gardens.

More than one hundred lunched in the Palatine Hotel under the chairmanship of Alderman W. Burns, J.P. After an excellent repast the loyal toasts were given by the chairman.

Mr H. M'Coll proposed "The Burns Federation" to which the President responded.

"The Editor of the *Chronicle*" was toasted at the call of Mr Jeffrey Hunter, and "The Lasses" proposed by Mr Tawse found a champion in Mr A. M'Callum.

The thanks of the delegates for the work the Sunderland Club had incurred were conveyed to the members by Mr Joseph Martin, and Mr Turner responded.

Finally the health of the genial chairman, Alderman Burns, was proposed by Mr W. Allan, and drunk with acclamation by the company.

After luncheon, the company drove to Marsden *via* Cleadon and Harton, had tea in the Grotto, and returned to Sunderland *via* Whitburn. The drive was greatly enjoyed by all.

On the evening of Sunday, the Rev. J. M. Little preached in Trinity Presbyterian Church an excellent and eloquent sermon on "The Religious Teachings of Robert Burns" to a crowded congregation which included many of the delegates.

The Sunderland meeting will long be remembered by those who were present on account of the great kindness and enthusiasm shown by our fellow-countrymen over the Border. The excellence of all the arrangements made by the local club, and the generous hospitality everywhere extended to the delegates were worthy of the highest commendation.

Where all did well, it seems invidious to make distinctions, but we cannot refrain from specially recognising the work of Alderman Burns, Mr W. H. Turner, and the energetic secretary of the club, Mr Matthew Neilson.

THOMAS AMOS, *Hon. Secy.*

List of Clubs which have subscribed for the Publishing Fund, 1906-7.

Glasgow Carlton	£0	10	6			
Do.	0	10	6			
Do. (Arrears)	0	10	6			
				£1	11	6
National Burns Club ...				1	1	0
Greenock				0	10	6
East Stirlingshire				0	10	6
Newcastle and Tyneside ...				0	10	6
Baillieston				0	10	6
Paisley				0	10	6
Dollar				0	10	6
Sandyford, Glasgow ...				0	10	6
Darlington				0	10	6
Glasgow Tam o' Shanter ...				0	10	6
Stirling				0	10	6
Thornliebank				0	10	6
Kirn..				0	10	6
Sunderland				0	10	6
Rutherglen Cronies ...				0	10	6
Vale of Leven Glencairn ...				0	10	6
Bristol Caledonian Society				0	10	6
Darnconner Airds Moss ...				0	10	6
Ninety Burns Club, Edin....				0	10	6
Blackburn-on-Almond ...				0	10	6
Riccarton, Kirkstyle ...				0	10	0
Newarthill				0	10	6
Partick, Western				0	10	6
Old Kilpatrick				0	10	6
Glasgow Scottish				0	10	6
Glasgow Albany				0	10	6
Ercildoune, Earleston ...				0	10	6
Glasgow Thistle				0	10	6
Dumbarton...				0	10	6
Airdrie				0	10	6
Glasgow Haggis				0	10	6

Corstorphine	£0	10	6
Hamilton Mossgiel ...	0	10	6
Falkirk	0	10	6
Row...	0	10	6
Kilmarnock Jolly Beggars	0	10	6
Walker Newcastle-on-Tyne	0	10	6
London	0	10	6
Alexandria	0	10	0
Glasgow Royalty	0	10	6
Blackburn	0	10	6
Gourock Jolly Beggars ...	0	10	6
Musselburgh	0	10	6
Campsie	0	10	6
Nottingham Scottish Assoc.	0	10	6
Duntocher Heron	0	10	6
Stonehouse	0	10	6
Bonnybridge	0	10	6
Greenock Cronies	0	10	6
Rosebery, Glasgow ...	0	10	6
Johannesburg	0	10	6
Kilbowie Jolly Beggars ...	0	10	6
St. Andrews	0	10	6
Glasgow Mauchline Society	0	10	6
Glasgow Central	0	10	6
Dunfermline United ..	0	10	6
Paisley Charleston... ...	0	10	6
Glasgow Bridgeton ...	0	10	6
Bonhill	0	10	6
Hamilton	0	10	6
Kilmarnock	0	10	6
Cowdenbeith Haggis ...	0	10	6
Kinning Park, Glasgow ...	0	10	6
Dublin	0	10	6
	£35	13	6

2 Clubs at £1 1s	...	...	...	£2	2	0
62 ,, 10/6	...	...	...	32	11	0
1 ,, 10/- ...	...	...	...	0	10	0
Arrears	...	...	...	0	10	6
				£35	13	6

Alphabetical List of Federated Clubs.

No. 40. Aberdeen
84. Abington
23. Adelaide
20. Airdrie
143. Airdrie—Gateside
2. Alexandria
6. Alloa
82. Arbroath
123. Auchinleck
19 Auckland
157 Baillieston Caledonia
99. Barlinnie
12. Barrow-in-Furness
64. Beith
15. Belfast
167. Birmingham
30. Blackburn
125. Blackburn-on-Avon
95. Bolton
29. Bolton Juniors
119. Bonhill
142. Bonnybridge
76. Brechin
120. Bristol
114. Brodick
106. Broxburn—Rosebery
4. Callander
110. Cambuslang
87. Campsie
71. Carlisle
102. Carlisle—Border
81. Carstairs Junction
11. Chesterfield
51. Chicago
138. Cleland
166. Cleveland Scottish Association
93. Clydebank
103 Coalburn—Rosebery
79. Corstorphine
127. Cowdenbeath—Haggis
128. Cowdenbeath—Glencairn
42. Crieff
66. Crossgates
45. Cumnock
86. Cumnock — The Winsome [Willie.
62. Cupar
35. Dalry
158. Darlington
122. Darnconner
55. Derby
37. Dollar

No. 146. Dublin
10. Dumbarton
52. Dumfries—Mechanics'
104. Dumfries Oak
112 Dumfries Howff
14. Dundee
69. Dunedin
80. Dunoon Cowal
85. Dunfermline—United
134. Duntocher—Heron
5. Earlston
108. East Calder
22. Edinburgh
111. Edinburgh—South
124. Edinburgh—Ninety
155. East Stirlingshire
149. Elgin
126. Falkirk
44. Forfar
90. Garelochhead
163. Gateshead and District
3. Glasgow—Tam o' Shanter
7. ,, Thistle
9. ,, Royalty
24. ,, Bank
27. ,, Springburn
33. ,, Haggis
34. ,, Carrick
36. ,, Rosebery
38. ,, Jolly Beggars
39. ,, St. David's
41. ,, Dennistoun
43. ,, Northern
47. ,, St. Rollox
49. ,, Bridgeton
61. ,, Glencairn
63. ,, Mossgiel
67. ,, Carlton
68. ,, Sandyford
70. ,, St. Rollox Jolly Beggars
74. ,, Mauchline Soc.
78. ,, Ardgowan
83. ,, Co-operative
88. ,, Caledonian
107. ,, Hutchesontown
109. ,, Caledonia
117. ,, Southern
118. ,, Albany
139. ,, National
145. ,, Central

No. 153. Glasgow—The Scottish
129. ,, Gorbals
164. ,, Kinning Park
59 Gourock—Jolly Beggars
53. Govan—Fairfield
116. Greenloaning
21. Greenock
148. Greenock—Cronies
152. Hamilton
100. ,, Mossgiel
121. ,, Junior
136. ,, Royal Oak
137. Ipswich
96. Jedburgh
154. Johannesburg, S.A.
92. Kilbowie
0. Kilmarnock
97. ,, Bellfield
150. ,, Jolly Beggars
115. Kippen
58. Kirkcaldy
75. Kirn
98. Lanark
144. Larbert and Stenhousemuir
73. Lenzie
18. Liverpool
1. London
28. Mauchline — The Jolly Beggars
8. Morpeth (dormant)
101. Motherwell
56. Muirkirk—Lapraik
65. Musselburgh
32. Newark

No. 133. Newarthall
156. Newcastle and Tyneside
131. Nottingham
17. ,, (dormant)
151. Old Kilpatrick
48. Paisley
77. ,, Gleniffer
161. ,, Charleston
72. Partick
135. ,, Western
26. Perth
54. ,, St. Johnstone
162. Plymouth and District
140. Pollokshaws
132. Riccarton—Kirkstyle
130. Row
105. Rutherglen
31. San Francisco
91. Shettleston
13. St. Andrews
50. Stirling
141. Stonehouse
147. ,, Haggis
89. Sunderland
16. Sydney
57. Thornliebank
94. Uphall
113. Vale of Leven—Glencairn
159. Walker-on-Tyne
165. Wallsend-on-Tyne
46. Warwickshire
160. Whitburn
25. Winnipeg
60. Wolverhampton

DIRECTORY

OF

BURNS CLUBS AND SCOTTISH SOCIETIES

ON THE

ROLL OF THE BURNS FEDERATION, 1908.

No. 0—KILMARNOCK Burns Club. Instituted 1808. Federated 1885. Place and date of meeting, George Hotel, 25th January, at 8 p.m. President, Sheriff Mackenzie, Crookedholm House, Hurlford; Vice-president, ex-Bailie M. Smith, J.P., Glencairn Square; *Secretary*, Thomas Amos, M.A., Sunnyside, Glebe Road; Committee, Capt. D. Sneddon, V.D., J.P.; D. M'Naught, J.P.; Joseph Brockie, J.P.; D. Murray, M.A., B.Sc.; Rev. G. S. Yuille, B.D.; ex-Bailie Kerr, B.L.; G. A. Innes, F.E.I.S.; Geo. Dunlop, J.P.; Wm. M'Menan, B.A.; Bailie M. Robertson, J.P.; James Middleton, J.P.; Wm. Heron, Robert Wylie, Capt. D. Yuille, and Capt. G. H. Wilson.

No. 1—LONDON Robert Burns Club. Instituted 1868. Federated 1885. Place and date of meeting, various. President, Dr J. M'I. M'Call, 4 Whitehall Place, S.W.; Vice-president, Alexander Stephen, 23 Milton Street, E.C.; *Secretary*, W. C. Daniels, 3 Stamford Hill Mansions, Stamford Hill, N.

No. 2—ALEXANDRIA Burns Club. Instituted 1884. Federated 1885. Place and date of meeting, Village School, first Friday of each month. President, William Livsey, 20 Leven Bank Terrace, Jamestown; Vice-president, John M'Gown, Linnbrane Terrace, Alexandria; *Secretary*, Duncan Carswell, Linnbrane Terrace, Alexandria; Treasurer, James Merrilees, 150 Main Street, Alexandria; Committee, Hugh M'Nevin, James M'Kenzie, A. M'Farlane, Donald Campbell, and Richard Thomson.

No. 3—GLASGOW Tam o' Shanter Club. Instituted 1880. Federated 1885. Place and date of meeting, White & Smith's Restaurant, 89 Glassford Street, last Tuesday of October, November, February, and March, and 25th January. President, Alexander M'Kenzie, 25 Albert Drive, Crosshill, Glasgow; Vice-president, Rev. Jas. Forrest, M.A., 8 Holland Place, Glasgow; *Secretary*, Andrew C. Baird, Writer, 141 Bath Street, Glasgow; Committee, Messrs Threshie, Hunter, Smith, Ritchie, Crawford, Altmann, Thomson, Milne, Watson, Renfrew, Vallance, and Robert M'Kenzie. Special features of Club—Cultivation of works of Burns, Scottish literature, and music generally.

No. 4—CALLANDER Burns Club. Instituted 1877. Federated 1885. *Secretary*, James S. Anderson, Callander.

No. 5—ERCILDOUNE Burns Club. Instituted January, 1885. Federated 26th November, 1885. Place of meeting, Red Lion Hotel. President, Henry Wallace, High Street, Earlston; Vice-presidents, A. Brown, High Street, and G. L. M'Donald, Station Road, Earlston; *Secretary*, A. M. Black, Market Place, Earlston.

No. 6—ALLOA Burns Club (formerly Alloa Haggis Club). Instituted 1873. Federated 1896. *Secretary*, R. Tait Melville, 44 Mill Street, Alloa.

No. 7—THISTLE Burns Club, Glasgow. Instituted 1882. Federated 1885. Place of meeting, 24 Thistle Street, Glasgow, S.S. President, Alex. W. Liddell, 24 Thistle Street, S.S., Glasgow; Vice-president, Charles Morton, 69 Nicholson Street, S.S., Glasgow; *Secretary*, D. R. Montgomery, 122 South Portland Street, Glasgow; Treasurer, Jno. Eadie, 12 Bridge Street, S.S., Glasgow.

No. 8—MORPETH and District Burns Club (dormant). Last *Secretary*, John Dobson, Oldgate Street, Morpeth.

No. 9—GLASGOW Royalty Burns Club. Instituted 1882. Federated 1886. Acting Hon. President, James M'Culloch; Hon. President, John M'Guffie; President, John Drake: Vice-president, James M'Nicoll, 64 Waterloo Street; *Secretary*, W. C. Rodger, 44 Bath Street, Glasgow; Committee—John M'Guffie, George Hamilton, John Gibson, A. Finlay, D. J. Crockett, and George M'Callum.

No. 10—DUMBARTON Burns Club. Instituted 1859. Federated 1886. Place and date of meeting, Elephant Hotel, 25th January, 1908. President, Wm. Baird, Union Bank House, Dumbarton; Vice-president, John M'Clelland, Barloan Crescent, Dumbarton; *Secretary*, Wm. Baird, Union Bank House, Dumbarton; Committee—Provost M'Farlan, W. A. M'Lachlan, M.D.; Bailie Kirk, Major Thomson, V.D.; Charles M'Kinnon, James Nimmo, and John M'Pherson. Special features of the Club—Celebration of the Poet's Birthday.

No. 11—CHESTERFIELD Burns Society. Federated 1886. *Secretary*, George Edward Drennan, 77 Salter Gate, Chesterfield, Derbyshire.

No. 12—BARROW-IN-FURNESS Burns Club. Federated 1886. *Secretary*, Alexander M'Naught, 4 Ramsden Square, Barrow-in-Furness.

No. 13—ST. ANDREWS Burns Club. Instituted 1869. Federated 1886. Place and date of dinner, Marine Hotel, Friday, 24th January, 1908. President, John L. Low, Esq., 60 South Street, or Royal and Ancient Club, St. Andrews; Vice-president, Professor Lawson, M.A., D.D., Gillespie Terrace, St. Andrews; *Secretary*, W. Macbeth Robertson, solicitor, 119 Market Street, St. Andrews; Treasurer, W. Macbeth Robertson, solicitor, 119 Market Street, St. Andrews; Committee of Management, Provost Murray, W. G. M. Brown, Andrew Bennett, T. W. M'Callum, M.A., W. Norman Boase, Charles Freeman, W. I. Duncan, and D. Hunter. 140 members.

No. 14—DUNDEE Burns Club. Instituted 1860. Federated 8th March, 1886. Place and time of meeting, 36 Nethergate, Dundee, first Wednesday of every month at 8.30 p.m. President, George S. Middleton, 36 Nethergate; Vice-president, Jas. B. Hood, 36 Nethergate; *Secretary*, David R. Roberts, 36 Nethergate; Treasurer, Ed. Dobson, 36 Nethergate; Curator, John A. Purvis, 36 Nethergate.

No. 15—BELFAST Burns Club. Instituted 1872. Federated 1886. *Secretary*, Barclay M'Conkey, Belfast.

No. 16—SYDNEY Burns Club. Instituted 1880. Federated 1886. *Secretary*, W. Telfer, School of Arts, Pitt Street, Sydney, N.S.W.

No. 17—NOTTINGHAM Scottish Society (dormant). Federated 1886.

No. 18—LIVERPOOL Burns Club. Instituted 1877. Federated 1886. *Secretary*, James M'William, 8 Normandy Street, Liverpool.

No. 19—AUCKLAND Burns Club. Instituted 1884. Federated 1886. *Secretary*, John Horn, Wellington Street, Auckland, N.Z.

No. 20—AIRDRIE Burns Club. Instituted 1885. Federated 1886. Place and time of meeting, Royal Hotel, Airdrie, 24th January, 7.30 p.m. President, Major G. B. Motherwell, Kensington Park, Airdrie; Vice-president, Wm. Inglis, C.E., Rosedale, Airdrie; *Secretary*, Robert Lutter, Sunnybank, Airdrie; Treasurer, S. Rogerson; Members of Council, William Anderson, Walter Cochrane, J. W. Findlay, R. C. Platt, and James Ramsay. Special features of the Club—Hallowe'en and Anniversary meetings, Lectures in Masonic Hall, Airdrie, on 22nd November, 20th December, 20th February, and 19th March, 1908, on different subjects of interest to Burnsians.

No. 21—GREENOCK Burns Club. Instituted 1802. Federated 1886. Place of meeting, Club Rooms, Nicolson Street. President, John Duncan, Ardenclutha, Port-Glasgow; Vice-presidents, John Neill, Glenfield, and John Barbour, 7 Arthur Street; *Joint Secretaries*, Colin C. M'Culloch, 25 West Burn Street, and Peter Grieve, 26 Brisbane Street; Treasurer, Hugh Ritchie, accountant, Municipal Buildings, Wallace Square; Committee—W. B. Ingram, John L. M'Questan, T. P. M'Callum, Alex. Ramsay, and J. M'K. Farquhar; House Convener, James Buchanan; Librarian, James Barron; Director of Music, Tom Graham. Special features of the Club—Club rooms are open to members at any time; keys with Curator on premises, 36 Nicolson Street. Library has valuable collection of editions of Burns, Fergusson, Galt, etc., and the walls are covered with signed portraits, including those of some of the most distinguished men in the country, who are honorary members of the Club. The Club makes a special feature of intervisitation meetings with Burns Clubs in the West of Scotland, also of ladies' nights. Visitors are always welcome to attend Club meetings. The Greenock Club is the oldest Burns Club in the world.

No. 22—EDINBURGH Burns Club. Instituted 1848. Federated 1886. President, Archd. Menzies, S.S.C.; Vice-president, Thos. Carmichael, S.S.C.; *Secretary*, Robt. Duncan, solicitor, 38 Lygon Road, Edinburgh: Chaplain, Rev. Jas. Ferguson; Bard, T. N. Hepburn; Hon. Treasurer, Kenneth Henderson.

No. 23—ADELAIDE South Australian Caledonian Society. Instituted 1881. Federated 1886. *Secretary*, H. G. M'Kittrick, Society's Office, 70 Greenfield Street, Adelaide, S.A.

No. 24—GLASGOW BANK Burns Club. Instituted 1844. Federated 1886.

No. 25—WINNIPEG St. Andrew's Society. Federated 1886. *Secretary*, David Phillip, Government Buildings, Winnipeg.

No. 26—PERTH Burns Club. Instituted 1873. Federated 1886. *Secretary*, James Harper, 68 St. John Street, Perth.

No. 27—SPRINGBURN Burns Club. Instituted 1884. Federated 25th June, 1886. *Secretary*, Cameron Henderson, Syriam Terrace, Springburn.

No. 28—THE JOLLY BEGGARS Burns Club, Mauchline.

No. 29—BOLTON Junior Burns Club. Instituted 1881. Federated 1886. *Secretary*, Harry George, 32 Halstead Street, The Harregh, Bolton.

No. 30—BLACKBURN Burns Club. Instituted 1884. Federated 9th July, 1886. Place of meeting, Victoria Hotel, Blackburn, Lancashire. President, William Ferguson, Dryfesdale, Park Road, Lytham; Vice-president, Thomas Anderson, 80 Penny Street, Blackburn: *Secretary*, Robert Ferguson, solicitor, 9 Tacketts Street, Blackburn, Lancashire; Committee, J. Little, J. M'Vittie, W. Maxwell, J. Forbes, T. Ferguson, F. S. Jardine, J. Smith, J. Rutherford, F. Wilkinson, J. W. Barton, and W. Wallbank. Special features of Club—(1) To commemorate the birthday of Burns; (2) to encourage the study of Burns and of the Scottish Poets, and of literature generally.

No. 31—SAN FRANCISCO Scottish Thistle Club. Instituted 1882. Federated 1886. *Secretary*, Geo. W. Paterson, 801 Guerero Street, San Francisco.

No. 32—NEWARK Burns Club. Federated 1886. *Secretary*, John Hogg, Caledonian Club, Newark, New Jersey, U.S.A.

No. 33—GLASGOW Haggis Club. Instituted 1872. Federated 1886. Place of meeting, National Burns Club, Limited, 93 Douglas Street, Glasgow. President, David Macfarlane, 48 Dixon Avenue, Crosshill: Vice-president, Robert Wilson, J.P., 149 Howard Street; *Secretary*, Joseph Martin, solicitor, 163 West George Street; Treasurer, Hugh B. Stewart, 74 York Street. Meetings last Friday of February, March, April, September, October, November, and December.

No. 34—CARRICK Burns Club. Instituted 1859. Federated 1887. Place and time of meeting, 62 Glassford Street, Glasgow, last Tuesday of each month, at 7.30. President, James Weir, 21 Hillfoot Street, Dennistoun, Glasgow; Vice-president, Thomas G. Jamieson, 83 Washington Street, Glasgow; *Secretary*, Thomas Ferguson, 412 Parliamentary Road, Glasgow; Treasurer, Robert Norval, 8 Park Drive (South), Whiteinch. Special features of the Club—Study of Burns and kindred literature. 30 members.

No. 35—DALRY Burns Club. Instituted 1826. Federated 1887. Place and date of meeting, Turf Inn, Courthill, Dalry, evening of Friday nearest birthday. President, George Houston, artist, West Lynn, Dalry; Vice-president, David Howie, Burnhouse, Dalry; *Corresponding Secretary*, John Hunter Hamilton, writer, 21 Clifford Street, Ibrox, Glasgow; *Recording Secretary*, David Johnston, M.A., Tintagel, Dalry; Treasurer, Patrick Comrie, Waterside, Dalry. The Club has met annually in the same place since 1826, and the minutes are complete for the whole period.

No. 36—GLASGOW Rosebery Burns Club. Instituted 1885. Federated 1887. Place and time of meeting, Ferguson & Forrester, Limited, Buchanan Street, 8 o'clock p.m. President, William Allan, 7 Park Road, Glasgow, W.; Vice-president, William C. Goldie, 50 Wellington Street; *Secretary*, J. Gartshore Scott, solicitor, 58 West Regent Street, Glasgow; Committee, James Angus, Alexander Pollock, George Armour, John A. Biggs, L.D.S.; Thomas W. Brown, Peter Smith, jnr., James Murray, W. C. Graham, John Smith, James Ferguson, C. F. M'Pherson, John M'William. Director of Music, J. R. Colquhoun; Pianist, George Colquhoun; Librarian, John Smith. Special features of Club—A series of lectures on Scottish Literature and History during the winter months; Competitions (senior and junior) for the encouragement of the study of Scottish songs, especially those of Burns.

No. 37—DOLLAR Burns Club. Instituted 1887. Federated January 14, 1887. Place and date of meeting, Castle Campbell Hotel, January 25. President, John Pender, Oak Bank, Dollar; Vice-president, W. Cruickshank, Aberdona Villa, Dollar; *Secretary*, William Younger, Sydney House, Dollar; Treasurer, Mr Stewart, banker, Dollar. Special features of the Club—To do honour to the memory of Robert Burns, and to give prominence to the power and beauty of Scottish Song.

No. 38 — GLASGOW Jolly Beggars Club. Instituted 1887. Federated 1888.

No. 39—GLASGOW St. David's Burns Club. Instituted 1887. Federated 1889.

No. 40—ABERDEEN Burns Club. Instituted 1887. Federated 1889. President, James Mushit, 50 Mushit Hall, Aberdeen.

No. 41—DENNISTOUN Burns Club. Instituted 1886. Federated 1889. *Secretary*, John B. M'Intosh, 300 Duke Street, Glasgow.

No. 42—CRIEFF Burns Club—Instituted 1889. Federated 1891. *Secretary*, William Pickard, Meadow Place, Crieff.

No. 43—GLASGOW Northern Burns Club. Federated 1891. *Secretary*, James Weir, 216 New City Road, Glasgow.

No. 44—FORFAR Burns Club. Instituted 1890. Federated 1891. *Secretary*, Henry Rae, 14 Montrose Road, Forfar

No. 45—CUMNOCK Burns Club. Instituted 1887. Federated 1891. *Secretary*, H. R. M'Culley, Hazelbank, Cumnock.

No. 46—WARWICKSHIRE Burns Club. Instituted 1888. Federated 1891. *Secretary*, Robert Greenfield, F.R.H.S., Ranelagh Nursery, Leamington.

No. 47—ST. ROLLOX Burns Club, Glasgow. Instituted 1889. Federated 1891. Place and time of meeting, 184 Castle Street, 8 p.m., last Friday of October, November, December, February, and March. President, Adam Paterson, 50 Glebe Street, Glasgow; Vice-president, John J. Robinson, 148 Morrin Street, Springburn; *Secretary*, Robert J. Carruthers, 24 Broompark Drive, Dennistoun; Treasurer, Donald Crawford, 184 Castle Street; Steward, James Ritchie; Committee—Andrew Dougall, Robert Brown, William Thomson, Thomas Hutcheson, and John Kean.

No. 48—PAISLEY Burns Club. Instituted 1805. Federated 1891. Place and time of meeting, Globe Hotel, Paisley, first Thursday of each month. President, Alexander Fullerton, Fordbank, Milliken Park; Vice-president, R. K. Bell, Middle Park, Staneley Road, Paisley; *Secretary*, George H. Cockburn, "St. Ives," Whitehaugh, Paisley. Limited by Constitution to 40 members.

No. 49—GLASGOW Bridgeton Burns Club. Instituted 1870. Federated 1891. President, Dr Robert Wilson, 38 Monteith Row, Bridgeton, Glasgow; Vice-president, George H. Laird, 10 Ann Street, Bridgeton, Glasgow; *Secretary*, Wm. Cochran, 190 West George Street, Glasgow; Assistant Secretary, J. Tullis Cochran; ex-President, Peter White; Treasurer, Wm. Reid; Directors, Robert Sadler; Andrew Hoy, F.E.I.S., Dr James Devon, J. M. Campbell, James M. Cullen, D. L. Stevenson, Councillor H. Colquhoun, Fergus Ewing, Malcolm Hendry. Special features of the Club—Recitation and Singing Competitions for the pupils of the schools in Glasgow and children of members. Members, 364.

No. 50—STIRLING Burns Club. Instituted 1887. Federated 1891. Place and date of meeting, Golden Lion Hotel, January 24, 1908. President, John Craig, Laurel Hill Nursery; Treasurer, J. C. Muirhead, 4 Port Street; *Secretary*, Ridley Sandeman, 22 Forth Crescent; other officials, D. B. Morris, Bailie Buchanan, Ronald Walker, R. B. Philip, A. Dun, J. F. Oswald, R. Menzies, W. A. Weir, Alexander Love, J. Mann, Peter Hunter, William Cunningham, J. Paterson, William Thomson, J. Crawford.

No. 51—CHICAGO Caledonian Society. Federated 1892. *Secretary*, Charles T. Spence, 3002 Wabash Avenue, Chicago.

No. 52—DUMFRIES Mechanics' Burns Club. Federated 1892. *Secretary*, James Anderson, 55 St. Michael Street, Dumfries.

No. 53—GOVAN Fairfield Burns Club. Instituted 26th January, 1886. Federated 23rd September, 1892. Place and time of meeting, 4 Holm Street, Govan, first Wednesday September to March. Hon. Presidents, ex-Bailie Hugh Lymburn and George M'Lachlan, Esq., J.P.; Hon. Vice-president, Thomas Black, Esq.; President, Thomas Fullarton, 917 Govan Road, Govan; Vice-president, James Purdie, 66 Elder Park Street, Govan; *Secretary*, Charles Maltman, 16 M'Kechnie Street, Govan; Treasurer, Robt. Ferguson, 46 Fairfield Street, Govan; Management Committee—Mr Leonard Pitt, Mr Donald M'Callum, and Mr Wm. Munro.

No. 54—PERTH St. Johnstone Burns Club. Federated 1892. *Secretary*, Thomas M'Gregor, 15 Balhousie Street, Perth.

No. 55—DERBY Burns Club. Federated 1892. *Secretary*, George M'Lauchlan, 49 Molyneaux Street, Derby.

No. 56—MUIRKIRK Lapraik Burns Club. Instituted 1893. Federated 1893. Place of meeting, Eglinton Arms Hotel. President, Thomas Weir, Victoria Buildings, Muirkirk; Vice-president, Dr Marshall, Irondale House; *Secretary*, Hugh Cameron, Main St., Muirkirk; Treasurer, A. Pringle, Linkieburn Cottages; Committee, John Taylor, R. Bell, T. Alston, William Logie, E. Anderson, J. Mansfield, G. Morrison, D. Greenwood. Special features of the Club—Commemoration on 25th Jan.

No. 57—THORNLIEBANK Burns Club. Instituted 25th January, 1891. Federated 1893. Place and date of meeting, Club Room, occasional and anniversaries. President, John Neilson, Lochiel Terrace, Thornliebank; Vice-president, Robert Hutton, North Park, Thornliebank; *Secretary*, William Park, jnr., Main Street, Thornliebank; 15 members of committee; 80 members. Special features of the Club—School children's competition, Scotch concert, annual outing, and Club meetings.

No. 58—KIRKCALDY Burns Club. Federated 1892. *Secretary*, John A. Miller, 12 Quality Street, Kirkcaldy.

No. 59—GOUROCK Jolly Beggars' Burns Club. Instituted 1893. Federated 1893. Place and time of meeting, Gamble Institute, Gourock. 8 p.m. President, ex-Provost Adam, Parklea, Gourock; Vice-president, George Knox, Argyle Villa, Gourock; *Secretary*, Peter M. Weir, Broomberry Terrace, Gourock; Treasurer, J. Wilson. Special features of the Club—Club meetings, annual outing, ladies' nights, and encouragement of Scottish literature.

No. 60—WOLVERHAMPTON Burns Club. Federated 1893. *Secretary*, James Killin, Beechgrove, Compton Road, Wolverhampton.

No. 61—GLASGOW Glencairn Burns Club. Federated 1893. *Secretary*, James Laing, 218 Wall Street, Glasgow.

No. 62—CUPAR Burns Club. Instituted 25th October, 1893. Federated 7th November, 1903. Hon. President, Mr H. T. Anstruther, ex-M.P. for the St. Andrews Burghs; President, Major W. Anstruther-Gray, M.P., of Kilmaney, Fife; Vice-presidents, Jno. M. Dawson, M.A., and T. W. Davidson; *Secretary*, David S. Esplin, *Courier* Office, Cupar; Treasurer, W. S. Mackay, Crossgate, Cupar; Committee—George Innes (Chairman), Bailie Simpson, Sergeant-Major Montague, P. Brough, H. Diggle, G. White, A. Russell, and D. S. Edmond. 130 members.

No. 63—GLASGOW Mossgiel Burns Club. Federated 1893. *Secretary*, J. M. Blair.

No. 64—BEITH Burns Club. Federated 1893. *Secretary*, James S. Anderson, Craigwell, Beith.

No. 65—MUSSELBURGH Burns Club. Instituted 1886. Federated 1894. Place and date of meeting, M'Donald's Hall, 27th January. President, ex-Bailie Henderson, Melville House, Musselburgh; Vice-president, John Young, 2 Bridge Street, Musselburgh; *Hon. Secretary*, William Constable, 84 Inveresk Road, Musselburgh; Hon. Treasurer, A. B. Hall, 10 Windsor Gardens, Musselburgh; Committee, J. R. Newlands, John Murray, A. S. Bourhill, John Dobbie, A. W. Millar, James Kinnaird, J. E. Brooks, R. S. Stewart, James Williamson. Membership over 200.

No. 66—CROSSGATES Burns Club. Federated 1894. *Secretary*, Robert Dall, Addison's Buildings, Crossgates.

No. 67—CARLTON Burns Club. Instituted 1894. Federated 1894. Place and time of meeting, M'Culloch's, 109 Argyle Street, Glasgow, first Tuesday of each month, October to April, 7.30. President, William M. Moffat, Esq., M.A., Stonelaw Public School, Rutherglen; Vice-president, Andrew M'Clure, Esq., 10 South Portland Street, Glasgow; *Secretary*, Wm. J. Straiton, 600 Dalmarnock Road, Glasgow; Treasurer, Wm. Renfrew, 165 Pitt Street, Glasgow; Committee—Wm. Thomson, Jno. Ballantine, D. Davidson, N. J. M'Culloch, D. M. Duff, D. M'Neil, D. Gilmour, W. M'Leod, R. M'Kenzie, Bailie Archd. Campbell, George Stark, T. Cameron, J. H. Pearson, James Ballantine, and James Tudhope.

No. 68—SANDYFORD Burns Club. Instituted 1893. Federated 1894. Place of meeting, Secretary's Office, 100 West Regent Street, Glasgow. President, Colin Young, I.M., 124 St. Vincent Street, Glasgow; Vice-president, Andrew Gemmell, 30 Derby Street, Glasgow; *Secretary*, Andrew P. Hamilton, 100 West Regent Street, Glasgow; Treasurer, James P. M'Phie, 6 Bishop Street, Anderston, Glasgow.

No. 69—DUNEDIN Burns Club. Federated 1894. *Secretary*, Wm. Brown, Choral Hall, Dunedin, N.Z.

No. 70—GLASGOW St. Rollox Jolly Beggars' Burns Club. Federated 1894.

No. 71—CARLISLE Burns Club. Instituted 25th January, 1889. Federated 1895. Place and date of meeting, Great Central Hotel, monthly during session. President, James Malcolm, Esq., Harraby, Carlisle; Vice-presidents, Messrs Porteous, F. Jones, T. Caton, D. Main, G. C. Muir, Rev. Alexander Davidson, and Dr Bird; *Secretary*, Mr John Jardine, 20 Broad Street, Carlisle; Assistant Hon. Secretary, Mr W. A. Mather, Midland Bank Chambers, Carlisle. Special feature of the Club—Literary.

No. 72—PARTICK Burns Club. Federated 1895. *Secretary*, William Scott Wyllie, writer, 149 St. Vincent Street, Glasgow.

No. 73—LENZIE Burns Club (dormant). Federated 1896. *Secretary*, James Moir, The Neuk, Lenzie.

No. 74—GLASGOW Mauchline Society. Instituted 1888. Federated 1895. President, Rev. Wilson Baird, Mauchline; Vice-president, James M'Gregor, Corrie, Arran; *Secretary*, William Campbell, 166 Buchanan Street, Glasgow; Treasurer, Thomas Killin, 168 West George Street, Glasgow. About 40 members.

No. 75—KIRN Burns Club. Instituted 25th January, 1892. Federated 10th February, 1896. Place and date of meeting, Queen's Hotel, Kirn, 24th January. President, Dr George Henderson, Douglas Park, Kirn Shore, Kirn; Vice-president, J. J. Ferguson, Esq., Ardmohr, Kirn: *Secretary*, John Macnair, house agent, Kirn; Treasurer, Councillor Lees, Wellmeadow; Committee—Councillor Drummond, Councillor Downie, J. R. Ferguson, Daniel M'Kellar, Wm. Dunbar, and Angus M'Allister. Special features of the Club—Singing and reciting competitions for Burns's Works for children; Debating and Recreation Branch, beginning 4th November, one night every week.

No. 76—BRECHIN Burns Club. Instituted January, 1894. Federated 7th March, 1896. Time of meeting, 25th January, other meetings as necessary. President, William Anderson, Esq., solicitor, 2 Airlie Street, Brechin; Vice-president, Charles Thomson, Esq., Eastbank, Brechin; *Secretary*, F. C. Anderson, 10 St. Mary Street, Brechin; *Joint Secretary and Treasurer*, David Edwards, jun., West Port, Brechin.

No. 77—PAISLEY Tannahill (Gleniffer) Burns Club. Instituted 1892. Federated 1896. *Secretary*, Thomas Campbell, 19 Kilnside Road, Paisley.

No. 78—GLASGOW Ardgowan Burns Club. Instituted 1893. Federated 1896. *Secretary*, John Fairley, 160 Cathcart Street, Kingston, Glasgow.

No. 79—CORSTORPHINE Burns Club. Instituted 1887. Federated 1896. Place and date of meeting, Public Hall, March, November, and 25th January, 8 p.m. President, John Dunlop, Whitehouse Terrace, Corstorphine; Vice-president, James Rutherford, jnr., 34 Ballgreen Road, Murrayfield; *Secretary*, William Wilson, 2 Belgrave Terrace, Corstorphine; Board and Committee of 8 members.

Special features of the Club—Two quarterly meetings, paper read and afterwards social, Burns songs, etc. ; Anniversary Dinner, 25th January.

No. 80—DUNOON Cowal Burns Club. Instituted 1896. Federated 1896. *Secretary*, Walter Grieve, James Place, Dunoon.

No. 81—CARSTAIRS Junction Burns Club. Instituted 1896. Federated 1896. *Secretary*, William Neill, Burnside Cottages, Carstairs Junction.

No. 82—ARBROATH Burns Club. Instituted 1888. Federated 1896. *Secretary*, Harry Lorimer, solicitor, 25 Market Place, Arbroath.

No. 83—GLASGOW Co-operative Burns Club. Instituted 1896. Federated 1896. Place and date of meeting, M'Culloch's Restaurant, 109 Argyle Street, Glasgow, first Saturday of month (October to May inclusive). President, J. M. Brown, 38 Pollok Street, Glasgow, S.S. ; Vice-president, Thomas Rough, 249 Main Street, Bridgeton; *Secretary*, H. Kelly, 5 Greenlodge Terrace. Greenhead, Glasgow ; Treasurer, G. M'Gregor, 18 Craighead Street, Barrhead. Special features of the Club—Papers on Burns or allied literary topics at each monthly meeting.

No. 84—ABINGTON Burns Club. Federated 1896. *Secretary*, Robert Colthart, Arbory Villa, Abington.

No. 85—DUNFERMLINE United Burns Club. Instituted 1812. Federated 12th November, 1896. Place of meeting, Royal Hotel, Dunfermline. President, William D. Imrie, Abbey Park Place, Dunfermline ; Vice-president, William Black, Charlestown, Dunfermline ; *Secretary*, P. Paterson, 23 Bruce Street, Dunfermline ; Committee of management, Dean of Guild Stewart, Thomas Don, William Fitzpatrick, Robert Taylor, Andrew Roxburgh, Andrew Wilkie, Charles E. Livingston, Lewis A. Park.

No. 86—CUMNOCK Winsome Willie Burns Club. Instituted 1896. *Secretary*, Hugh Brown, Cumnock.

No. 87—CAMPSIE Burns Club. Instituted 1890. Federated 1896. Place and time of meeting, Lennox Arms Hotel, last Saturday of each month, from September to April, 7.30 p.m. Hon. President, Colonel C. M. King ; ex-President, Mr Peter Kincaid ; President, Mr William M'Kay, Crosshill Street, Lennoxtown ; *Secretary*, Mr R. W. Robertson, Russell Place, Lennoxtown. Special features of the Club—Literary meetings held each month, together with occasional musical evenings and Anniversary celebration.

No. 88—GLASGOW "Caledonian." Instituted October, 1896. Federated 2nd March, 1897. Place of meeting, 25 Caledonia Road. President, William Fleming, 154 Hospital Street, Glasgow ; *Secretary*, John Muirhead, c/o Drummond, 136 Roslea Drive, Glasgow ; Treasurer, George Philips, 389 Crown Street, S.S., Glasgow.

No. 89—SUNDERLAND Burns Club. Instituted January, 1897. Federated April, 1897. Place and time of meeting, Palatine Hotel,

first and third Wednesdays, October to March, first Wednesday, April, May, and September, 8 p.m. President, W. H. Turner, Mossgiel, 9 The Oaks; Vice-president, Dr J. Waterston, J.P., Frederick Street; *Secretary*, M. Neilson, 14 Whickham Street, Sunderland; Treasurer, M. M'Lennan; Piper, G. Murray; Committee—J. F. Crooks, A. W. Semple, J. Donald, D. Condie, J. Knox, jun.; Librarian, G. Mackay; Auditor, P. Inglis. Special features of the Club—Reading of papers, lectures, annual Scottish concert, Anniversary dinner, visitation of clubs in the north of England. 67 members.

No. 90—GARELOCHHEAD Burns Club. Instituted 1895. Federated 1897. President, John Connor, Schoolhouse; Vice-president, Stuart K. Turnbull, Aikenshaw; *Secretary*, J. Douglas, Dahlandhui, Mambeg.

No. 91—SHETTLESTON Burns Club. Instituted 25th January, 1897. Federated 18th August, 1897. *Secretary*, Robert G. Chrytal, 221 Westmuir Street, Parkhead.

No. 92—KILBOWIE Jolly Beggars. Instituted August 26, 1897. Federated September, 1897. Place of meeting, T. F. Ross's Restaurant, Clydebank. President, Alexander M'Donald, Gordon Villa, Montrose Street, Kilbowie; Vice-president, William Paterson, 2 Livingstone Street, Clydebank; *Secretary*, Leonard Trew, 38 Second Avenue, Kilbowie; Treasurer, James Agnew; Committee, James Dickson, John Seright, D. M'Williams, F. Davis, W. Allan. Special features of the Club—For the cultivation of Scottish Literature, also other poetical works. 30 members.

No. 93—CLYDEBANK Burns Club. Federated 1897.

No. 94—UPHALL Tam o' Shanter Burns Club. *Secretary*, Walter Crawford, Dechmont, Uphall.

No. 95—BOLTON Burns Club. Instituted 6th September, 1881. Federated 1897. *Secretary*, Charles H. Mallison, Oaklands, Seymour Road, Bolton.

No. 96—JEDBURGH Burns Club. Instituted 1869. Federated 13th November, 1897. *Secretary*, Peter Telfer, 58 Castlegate, Jedburgh.

No. 97—BELLFIELD Burns Club. Instituted 1895. Federated 1898. Place and time of meeting, Bellfield Tavern, first Friday of month, at 8 o'clock. Hon. President, D. Picken; Hon. Vice-president, J. Borland; President, Daniel Donnelly, 42 Glebe Road, Kilmarnock; Vice-president, James Neilson, Robertson Place, Kilmarnock; *Secretary*, Fred. Lochhead, 38 Kirktonholm Street, Kilmarnock; Treasurer, Boyd Murray; Auditors, D. Torrance and W. Duff; Chaplain, William Cooper; Committee—J. Eccles, W. Brown, A. Craig, J. Harkness, and W. Duff. Special features of the Club—To encourage the cultivation of a better knowledge of the Poet and his Works, and the promotion of friendly and social intercourse amongst the members and friends.

No. 98—LANARK Burns Club. Instituted 1891. Federated 17th January, 1898. Time of meeting, quarterly. President, Councillor Thos. Lithgow, Furrowflat, Lanark; Vice-president, ex-Provost Thomas Watson of Churchill, Lanark; *Secretary*, George C. Arnott, *Advertiser* Office, Lanark; Treasurer, Robert Martin, Wellgate, Lanark. Special features of the Club—Burns's competitions to be held annually amongst children attending schools. 45 members.

No. 99—GLASGOW Barlinnie Burns Club (dormant). *Secretary*, J. Stewart, Officers' Quarters, Barlinnie.

No. 100—HAMILTON Mossgiel. Instituted 1892. Federated 4th April, 1898. Place and date of meeting, Royal Hotel, first Tuesday every month at 8.15 p.m. President, Archibald Clark, jnr., merchant, Quarry Street, Hamilton; Vice-president, John D. Lightbody, Ardenlee, Portland Park, Hamilton; *Secretary*, William Hindshaw, 14 Regent Street, Hamilton; Treasurer, William Hamilton; Committee, John Campbell, William Maxwell, William Watson, William Stevenson, George Thorpe, Thomas Brown, and Thomas Aird. Special features of the Club—Essays and discussions on Burns' Works and special course of lectures during winter months, annual dinner and celebration of 25th January.

No. 101—MOTHERWELL Workmen's Burns Club. Federated 1898. *Secretary*, John King, 128 Muir Street, Motherwell.

No. 102—CARLISLE Border Burns Club (dormant). Federated 1898. *Secretary*, Andrew Rafell, 36 London Road, Carlisle.

No. 103—COALBURN Burns Club. Federated 1898. *Secretary*, John Woodburn, Coalburn Inn, Coalburn.

No. 104—DUMFRIES Oak Burns Club. Federated 1898. *Secretary*, Thomas Haining, jnr., 26 Swan's Vennel, Dumfries.

No. 105—RUTHERGLEN Cronie Burns Club. Instituted 30th October, 1896. Federated 14th December, 1898. Place and time of meeting, Burnhill Rest, last Friday of each month, at 8 p.m. President, William Stewart, 24 Westmuir Place, Rutherglen; Vice-president, Walter Sharp, Millcroft Row, Rutherglen: *Secretary*, David M'Quaker, 816 Rutherglen Road, Glasgow, S.S.; Treasurer, William Morrison, Burnhill Rest, Rutherglen.

No. 106—BROXBURN Rosebery Burns Club. Federated 1898. *Secretary*, Joseph Millar, Ashfield Buildings, Uphall.

No. 107—GLASGOW Hutchesontown Burns Club. Federated 1898.

No. 108—EAST CALDER and District Jolly Beggars' Burns Club. Federated 1899. *Secretary*, Samuel Hislop, West Calder.

No. 109—GLASGOW Caledonia Burns Club. Instituted September, 1898. Federated 24th March, 1899. *Secretary*, William Galloway, 77 Preston Street, Govanhill.

No. 110—CAMBUSLANG Burns Club. Instituted 1850. Federated October, 1898. *Secretary*, William Muir, 14 Lilybank Buildings, Cambuslang.

No. 111—SOUTH EDINBURGH Burns Club. Instituted 1879. Federated 27th July, 1899. *Secretary*, John S. T. Walker, 1 Summerbank, Edinburgh.

No. 112—DUMFRIES Burns Howff. Instituted 1889. Federated 10th August, 1899. Place and time of meeting, Globe Hotel, monthly. Hon. President, Charles Bertram, Greenbrae, Dumfries; President, John Dickson, Balmoral Road, Dumfries; Vice-president, John Maxwell, English Street, Dumfries; *Secretary*, John Connor, 61 St. Michael Street, Dumfries; Treasurer, T. Robertson; Auditors, J. W. Howat and J. Grierson.

No. 113—VALE OF LEVEN, Glencairn Instituted 1897. Federated 1899. Place and time of meeting, Albert Hotel, Alexandria, last Saturday of each month at 7.30. President, Alexander Campbell, Hillbank, Bonhill, Dumbartonshire; Vice-president, James M'Innes, Govan Drive, Alexandria; *Secretary*, Daniel MacMillan, 38 Wilson Street, Alexandria; Treasurer, William Smith, 263 Main Street, Bonhill; Hon. President, William White, 44 Bridge Street, Alexandria; Committee, Daniel M'Innes, 17 Wilson Street, Alexandria; Thomas Peters, Bridge Street, Alexandria; John Galbraith, Main Street, Bonhill; John M'Gowan, Bridge Street, Alexandria. Special features of the Club—Celebration of 25th January, summer outing, and occasional short papers read by members.

No. 114—BRODICK Burns Club. Instituted 1899. Federated 1900. *Secretary*, John S. Currie, Brodick.

No. 115—KIPPEN and District Burns Club. Instituted 21st July, 1896. Federated 20th January, 1900. Place of meeting, Gillespie Memorial Hall. Hon. President, John Monteath, J.P., Wright Park, Kippen Station; President, Daniel M'Kinlay, Castle Hill, Kippen; Vice-president Andrew Main, Strewie Bank, Kippen Station; *Secretary*, Samuel Thomson, Pointend, Kippen; Treasurer, Thomas Syme, Strathview, Kippen; Committee—Robert Leckie, James M'Ewan, Peter Matson, Archibald Gray, George M'Queen, Robert Jackson, Archibald M'Diarmid, Duncan M Diarmid, John Montgomery, John Cook, James Livingstone, and James Napier. Special features of the Club—To promote a knowledge of the life and works of Burns, and establish a fund for the cultivation and learning the works of Burns and Scottish literature among our school children, and having competitions in which handsome prizes are given.

No. 116—GREENLOANING Burns Club. Instituted 1889. Federated 1900. Place and time of meeting, Greenloaning Inn, 25th January, at 7.30 p.m. President, Thomas Stewart, The Braes, Greenloaning, Braco; Vice-president, Francis Sands, Greenloaning, Braco; *Secretary*, James Bayne, Kinbuck, Dunblane; Com-

mittee—J. M'Laren, W. Blair, J. Shearer, J. M'Naughton, G. Robertson, and W. Taylor. Special features of the Club—Celebration of 25th January, Burns concert, and summer outing to school children.

No. 117—GLASGOW Southern Burns Club. Instituted 1899. Federated 1900. *Secretary*, John M'Gillivray, 168 Mathieson Street, Glasgow.

No. 118—ALBANY Burns Club. Instituted 1900. Place and time of meeting, Trades' House Restaurant (White & Smith's), 89 Glassford Street, first Wednesday in each month, October till March, at 7.30 till 10. Hon. President, Robert Goodall; President, John Brown, 225 Buchanan Street, Glasgow; Vice-presidents, Ninian Macwhannell, 58 West George Street, Glasgow, and Archibald Norval, 230 North Woodside Road, Glasgow; *Secretary*, John Drennan, 12 Annette Street, Crosshill, Glasgow; Treasurer, Alexander Gray, 67 Great Hamilton Street, Glasgow; ex-Presidents, Robert Goodall, J. Wilson Bain, James Taylor, and Thomas Kennedy; Committee—John Grant, R. D. Donaldson, David Baird, John A. Headrick, James Raeside, and George Gillies. Special features of the Club—Dinner takes place in Grand Hotel, January 24th, 1908, when the "Immortal Memory" will be proposed by Rev. J. Glasse, D.D., Edinburgh. Lectures and harmony.

No. 119—BONHILL Burns Club. Instituted 1900. Federated 1900. *Secretary*, John F. Eadie, 9 Dillichip Terrace, Bonhill.

No. 120—BRISTOL Caledonian Society. Instituted 1820. Federated 1900. Annual meeting in October. President, Ivie M. Dunlop, Avonhurst, Stoke Bishop, Bristol; *Hon. Secretary and Treasurer*, John Bennet, 25 Bridge Street, Bristol.

No. 121—HAMILTON Junior Burns Club. Instituted September, 1886. Federated April, 1901. Place of meeting, Robert Bell's, Union Street, Hamilton. President, Robert Brown, 72 Ladywell Road, Motherwell; Vice-president, John M'Millan, 48 Chapel Street, Hamilton; *Secretary*, William Wilson, 27 Duke Street, Hamilton; Treasurer, John Stewart; Minute Secretary, A. Thomson; Committee, J. M'Ewan, J. Welsh, and J. Crawford; Steward, J. Gourlay. Special features of the Club—Reading of essays on various subjects, concerts, competitions, summer rambles, and social evenings. 30 members.

No. 122—DARNCONNER Airds Moss Burns Club. Instituted 1901. Federated 1901. Place and date of meeting, Sorn, 25th January, at 8. President, Hugh Sloan, 71 Walker Row, Auchenleck; Vice-president, Andrew Neil. 90 Darnconner; *Secretary*, Andrew Stevenson, Glenlogan, Sorn, Mauchline.

No. 123—AUCHINLECK Boswell Burns Club. Instituted 26th January, 1901. Federated 10th December, 1901. *Secretary*, Wm. Fleming, Northalbion Cottage, Auchinleck.

No. 124—EDINBURGH Ninety Burns Club. Instituted 1890. Federated 1902. President, T. M. Sleigh, 151 Bruntsfield Place, Edinburgh; Vice-president, Thomas Agnew, 26 Eyre Crescent, Edinburgh; *Secretary*, R. D. Grant M'Laren, 12 Mayfield Road, Edinburgh; Treasurer, M. Murray, 19 Crighton Place, Edinburgh; Committee—R. Burns Brown, D. S. Douglas, James Hewat, J. Munro, S. Smith.

No. 125—BLACKBURN-ON-ALMOND Rabbie Burns Club. Instituted 1900. Federated 1902. Place and time of meeting, Almond Inn, first Thursday of month from October to April. President, James Samson, Blackburn, by Bathgate; Vice-president, Alexander Gardiner, Knowehead, Blackburn, by Bathgate; *Secretary*, James Middleton, East Whitburn, Linlithgowshire: Treasurer, Joseph Flemming, Blackburn; Committee, Thomas Gibson, David Flemming, Willie Millar, Smith Tennant, and George Douglas. Special features of Club—Annual supper on 25th January; social last Friday in March, with singing and reciting competitions on Burns's works for school children.

No. 126—FALKIRK Burns Club. Instituted 1866. Federated 1902. President, Major F. D. Ferguson, Dunrowan; Vice-presidents, Dr Mitchell, Dunrowan, and Sheriff Moffatt, Arnotdale; *Secretary*, H. B. Watson, Broompark, Falkirk; Treasurer, Bailie Ro. Whyte, J.P., Bank of Scotland House; Committee, Provost Christie, J.P., Treasurer Lochhead, J.P., F. Johnston, J.P., D. P. Black, and Thos. Middleton. Special features of Club—Annual dinner on January 25th; half-yearly literary meetings open to lady friends; and annual outing to places associated with Burns.

No. 127—COWDENBEATH Haggis Burns Club. Instituted January, 1903. Federated 7th November, 1903. Place and time of meeting, Foulford Arms, every alternate Tuesday, at 7 p.m. President, Robert Cook, 10 Burgh Road, Cowdenbeath; Vice-presidents, J. Hutton, Bowling Green Street, and J. Bain, Hall Street; *Secretary*, David Small, 24 Burgh Road, Cowdenbeath; Committee—F. Bain, J. Crockett, J. Storrar, R. M'Leod, R. Paterson.

No. 128—COWDENBEATH Glencairn Burns Club. Instituted 1898. Federated 14th May, 1903. Place and time of meeting, Raith Arms Inn, Cowdenbeath, Thursday, at 7 p.m. President, Duncan Beaton, Bridge Street, Cowdenbeath; Vice-president, John Kirk, 349 High Street, Cowdenbeath; *Secretary*, Wm. Breingan, Raith Arms Inn, Cowdenbeath; Treasurer, Thomas Ferguson, Stenhouse Street; Committee—Daniel Hutchison, Alex. Wilson, David Walls. Special features of the Club, to keep alive the memory of Burns and the promotion of social and friendly intercourse amongst the members and friends.

No. 129—GORBALS Burns Club. Instituted 1902. Federated 11th June, 1903. Place of meeting, Alexandra Hotel, Glasgow (various times). President, Bailie Archibald Campbell, Park Lodge, Albert Drive, Pollokshields; Vice-president, Dr Weir, Abbotsford Place, Glasgow; *Secretary*, Andrew Aitken, solicitor, 147 Bath Street, Glasgow. Special features of the Club—To promote by lectures and concerts the study and appreciation of the Works of the National Bard.

No. 130—ROW Burns Club. Instituted 6th February, 1902. Federated 1903. Place and time of meeting, Colquhoun Arms, January, June, and October, at 8 p.m. President, F. C. Buchanan, J.P., Clarinish, Row, Dumbartonshire: Vice-presidents, Major John M'Farlane, 1 West Clyde Street, Helensburgh; N. M. M'Leod, Esq., Fiunary, Shandon, Dumbartonshire; Capt. G. S. Deverell, R.N., Clyde Training Ship *Empress*, Row; *Secretary*, Robert Sloan, Greenside Cottage, Row; Treasurer, G. Walker, Laggray Lodge, Row. Special features of the Club—Social intercourse among its members.

No. 131—NOTTINGHAM Scottish Association. Instituted October, 1902. Federated November, 1903. Place and date of meeting, Mechanics' Institution Room 75, fortnightly on Tuesdays, from October to March inclusive. President, N. R. Hamilton, F.C.A., Armitage Chambers, Victoria Street, Nottingham; Vice-presidents, D. Macadie, 10 Chaworth Road, W. Bridgford, Notts.; D. MacGregor, 16 Musters Road, W. Bridgford, Notts.; *Secretaries*, J. G. Simpson, 54 Dryden Street, Nottingham, and M. J. Kay, 22 Gauntley Street, Nottingham; Treasurer, George E. Bain, The Capital and Counties Bank, Ltd., Market Place, Nottingham; Council, N. Brown, J. Chapman, A. Crawford, J. Currie, D. G. Guild, A. Innes, W. C. Innes, R. P. Leslie, J. M'Meeking, J. S. M'William, Dr Millar, G. A. Mitchell, E. Merson, N. C. Stewart; Auditors, R. Burns, C.A., and A. M'Gougan. Features of Association—Social intercourse among members.

No. 132—RICCARTON Kirkstyle Burns Club. Instituted January, 1904. Federated 16th November, 1904. *Secretary*, Archibald Young, 88 Campbell Street, Riccarton.

No. 133—NEWARTHILL. Instituted 26th September, 1903. Federated 28th March, 1904. Place and time of meeting, Miss Janet Wyper's, last Saturday every month at 7 p.m. President, John Henshaw, North Road, Newarthill, Motherwell; Vice-president, Robert Henderson, Muir's Land, Newarthill, Motherwell; *Secretary*, George Cook, Young's Place, Newarthill, Motherwell; Treasurer, George Cook; Committee—J. Lafferty, J. Millar, J. Sneddon, T. Crombie. Special features of the Club—To promote social intercourse amongst its members by means of songs, recitations, readings, essays, &c., annual concert, and competition with school children in singing and reciting the works of the Poet.

No. 134—"THE HERON" Burns Club. Instituted 18th November, 1897. Federated 7th April, 1904. *Secretary*, R. R. Chalmers, Main Street, Duntocher.

No. 135—WESTERN Burns Club. Instituted 1903. Federated 1904. Place of meeting, Windsor Restaurant, Dumbarton Road, Partick. President, J. D. Smith, 11 Inverclyde Terrace, Partick; Vice-president, D. Menzies, 1 Cluny Villas, Jordanhill; *Secretary*, John E. Shaw, 3 Ardery Street, Partick; Committee—J. A. Biggs, A. Ferguson, D. Ferguson, J. Hislop, J. L. M'Cay, H. M'Coll, B. C. M'Donald, D. Macneish, A. Mouat, G. Sievewright, D. Simpson, A. A. Stewart, E. Tough, James Webster.

No. 136—HAMILTON Royal Oak Burns Club. Instituted 1898. Federated 6th June, 1904. *Secretary*, Robt. Brownlie, 7 Downie Street, Lowwaters, Hamilton.

No. 137—IPSWICH Burns Club. Instituted 1902. Federated 1904. *Secretary*, Peter Stewart, South Lodge, Gibbon's Street, Ipswich.

No. 138—CLELAND Burns Club. Instituted 19th October, 1904. Federated 22nd November, 1904. *Secretary*, Robt. M'Millan, Hornshill, Cleland.

No. 139—NATIONAL Burns Club (Limited). Instituted 1904. Federated 1904. Place and time of meeting, Club Rooms, 93 Douglas Street, open every day. President, James Ballantyne, 21 Rose Street, Garnethill; Vice-president, John Carmichael, 27 Blytheswood Drive; *Secretary*, Joseph Martin, solicitor, 163 West George Street; Treasurer, Joseph Martin. Special features—The promotion of the study of Burns's works and Scottish literature generally; the collection of books, prints, and pamphlets concerned therewith; and social intercourse and rational recreation.

No. 140—POLLOKSHAWS Burns Club. Instituted 1865. Federated 1905. Place and time of meeting, Town Hall, last Friday of each month. President, Robert Wilson, J.P., Dalsalloch, Pollokshields; Vice-president, George C. Mearns, 43 King Street, Pollokshaws; *Secretary*, James Milne, Burgh Halls, Pollokshaws.

No. 141—STONEHOUSE Burns Club. Instituted 2nd April, 1904. Federated 24th April, 1904. President, Mr John Collison, Lockhart Street, Stonehouse; Vice-president, Mr James Burt, New Street, Stonehouse; *Secretary*, Mr Wm. Hinshelwood, Laurie Street, Stonehouse; Treasurer, Mr Jas. Whitelaw; Committee, Mr John Wardrop, Mr Robt. Frew, Mr Walter Hamilton, Mr Wm. Paterson, and Mr Daniel Dodd.

No. 142—BONNYBRIDGE Burns Club. Instituted 10th Jan., 1905. Federated 22nd Feb., 1905. Place and time of meeting, Co-operative Hall, Bonnybridge, 24th January. Hon. Presidents, Mrs Barbara Scott Ure, Mrs Margaret Helen Ferguson (grand-niece of Allan Cunningham), Mrs Mary M. Johnston, Mrs E. G. Lochhead, Mrs Georgina Gordon White, Mrs Jane Cameron Christie, Miss Janet Margaret Watson, George Ure, J.P., D.L., George R.

Ure, J.P., and Walter Towers. President, William M'Gruther, Victoria Cottage, Bonnybridge; Vice-presidents, James Blair, Dartlea Cottage, Greenhill, and Jas. Walker, Ivanhoe, Bonnybridge; *Secretary*, John Towers, Allanhill Cottage, Bonnybridge; Treasurer, Miss Mary Smith, Main Street, Bonnybridge. Committee—Mrs R. M'Arthur, Miss Jeanie M'Phie, Jas. Paterson, Wm. Brown, John M'Laren, Jas. Walker, junr., A. F. Anderson, John Irvine, Matthew M'Neilage, and Wm. Pollock. Special features of the Club—The admission of ladies as members, no intoxicating liquors used at any meeting, celebration of the Poet's birthday.

No. 143—AIRDRIE Gateside Burns Club. Instituted November 6, 1904. Federated May 1, 1905. *Secretary*, Alexander W. Ritchie, Laurel Bank, Queen Victoria Street, Airdrie.

No. 144—LARBERT & STENHOUSEMUIR Temperance Burns Club. Instituted 1904. Federated 1905. President, John Gill Muse, The Studio, Larbert; Vice-president, John Ure, Castlehill Cottage, Larbert; *Secretary*, John Richardson, Hunslea, South Bromage, Larbert.

No. 145—GLASGOW Central Burns Club and Literary Society, Ltd. Instituted 1905. Federated 18th August, 1905. *Secretary*, John Kinney, 166 Main Street, Glasgow, S.S.

No. 146—DUBLIN Burns Club. Instituted 1905. Federated 1905. Place of meeting, committee meetings, Sackville Hall; others per syllabus. President, Thomas A. Stodart, 16 Northumberland Road, Dublin. *Secretary*, John Farquhar, 21 Windsor Avenue, Fairview, Dublin; Treasurer, Alex. Lyon, 111 Botanic Road, Glasnevin, Dublin. Special features of the Club, the perpetuity of the memory of Robert Burns by the celebration of his birthday and otherwise, and for the intellectual improvement as well as the social intercourse and enjoyment of its members.

No. 147—STONEHOUSE Haggis Burns Club. Federated 28th October, 1905. *Secretary*, R. Whitelaw, 22 Camnethan Street, Stonehouse.

No. 148—GREENOCK CRONIES Burns Club. Instituted January, 1899. Federated 9th November, 1905. Place and time of meeting, Queen's Rooms, Hamilton Street, first Wednesday in month, Sept. to April. President, William Brand, 36 West Stewart Street, Greenock; Vice-president, Alexander Agnew, 34 Inverkip Street, Greenock; *Secretary*, Hugh Cammack, 7 Carwood Street, Greenock.

No. 149—ELGIN Burns Club. Resuscitated January, 1900. Federated 1905. Place of meeting, Gordon Arms Hotel, Elgin. President, John Wittet, C.E., Elgin; Vice-president, Hon. Sheriff Dunlop; *Secretary*, John Foster, Sheriff Clerk of Elginshire; Hon. Treasurer, J. B. Muir, Chief Constable; Hon. Piper to the Club, J. Grant Smith.

No. 150 — KILMARNOCK Jolly Beggars. Instituted January, 1905. Federated December, 1905. Place and date of meeting, "Wee

Thack," Grange Street, first Monday of each month. President, Andrew Sinclair, 45 M'Lelland Drive; Vice-president, Robert Jamieson, 4 Fullarton Street: *Secretary*, Robert J. Green, 58 Park Street; Treasurer, George M'Donald; Hon. Presidents, A. Laird, A. Kerr, and R. Orr. Special features of the Club—Lectures during the winter months to encourage the cultivation of a better knowledge of the Poet and his works, and the promotion of friendly and social intercourse amongst the members and friends.

No. 151—OLD KILPATRICK Burns Club. Instituted January, 1903. Federated 20th January, 1906. Place of meeting, U.F. Church Hall. President, Thomas Struthers, Station House, Old Kilpatrick; Vice-president, Dr Calder Blythe, Mount Pleasant Drive, Old Kilpatrick; *Secretary*, Robert Smith, Gateside, Old Kilpatrick; Committee—Thomas Kempton, John Brock, James Howard, Alex. Smith, James Retson, James M'Carlie, W. M'Pherson, and Alex. Mann. Special features—The study of Burns's Works (life, songs, and poems) and lectures during the winter, about four in all. Membership, 70 (limited).

No. 152—HAMILTON Burns Club. Instituted 1877. Federated 1906. Place of meeting, Commercial Hotel; monthly during winter months. President, Alex. Patrick Smith, Old Auchingramont, Hamilton; Vice-president, Sheriff A. S. D. Thomson, LL.B., Oakenshaw, Hamilton: *Secretary*, Peter Anderson, Rowanlea, Hamilton; Treasurer, Major W. Martin Kay, Craigton Lodge, Hamilton; Directors James Lochhead, Matt. Campbell, Alex. Caird, Jas. Steele, Walter Watson, Jas. M'Laren; Auditor, Thos. Mitchell. Special features of the Club—To encourage the study of Scottish literature in general, and the works of the poet in particular. Prizes are given to each of the schools in the burgh upon an examination in Scottish literature. Arrangements have been made for a lecture on "Burns from a French point of view," by Councillor Moffat, and on "the poems of Robert Louis Stevenson," by Thos. Munro, two ex-presidents. A public lecture is also being arranged on the lines of that delivered last session by Professor Dixon, L.L.D., of Glasgow University.

No. 153—SCOTTISH Burns Club, Glasgow. Instituted 1904. Federated 1906. Place and time of meeting, 60 Union Street, first Wednesday of month, at 8 p.m. President, David A. Penman, Glenafton, Stewarton Drive, Cambuslang; Vice-presidents, Thos R. Park, Dalveen, Cambuslang, John Wilson, 83 Jamaica Street, Glasgow; *Secretary*, James F. Stewart, 60 Union Street, Glasgow; Treasurer, C. J. G. Allan, 59 Queensborough Gardens. Special features of the Club—Literary, musical, and social meetings held monthly.

No. 154—JOHANNESBURG Burns Club. Instituted 1900. Federated 1906. President, A. S. Raitt, M.L.C., P.O. Box 1313, Johannesburg; Vice-president, Alex. Forfar, Spes Bona School, Baamfontein, Johannesburg; *Secretary*, Leslie B. Dalgleish, P.O. Box 2636, Johannesburg, South Africa.

No. 155—EAST STIRLINGSHIRE Burns Club. Instituted 25th January, 1905. Federated 1st September, 1906. Place and time of meeting, Cross Roads Inn, Bainsford, Falkirk, third Tuesday every month at 7.30 p.m. President, John D. Silcock, 13 Gordon Terrace, Carron Road, Falkirk; vice-president, George Taylor, Mungal Place, Bainsford, Falkirk; *Secretary*, Alex. Glen, 12 Gordon Terrace, Carron Road, Falkirk; Treasurer. William Morrison, 24 Elliot Place, Bainsford, Falkirk. Special features—To foster and maintain an intimate and thorough knowledge of the life and works of Burns; to celebrate the anniversary of his birth in supper, song, and sentiment, and to propagate and encourage a kind, social, and brotherly feeling one towards another.

No. 156—NEWCASTLE AND TYNESIDE Burns Club. Instituted 1864. Federated, 1906. Place and date of meeting, Continental Restaurant, Newcastle-on-Tyne, last Friday every month. President, Dr J. D. Farquharson, 242 Westgate Road, Newcastle-on-Tyne; Vice-president, James Arnott, Esq., 9 Eslington Terrace, Newcastle-on-Tyne; *Secretary*, John Dempster, 29 Northumberland Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne; Treasurer, Wm. Maxwell. 80 Osborne Road, Newcastle-on-Tyne. Special features of the Club—Keeping in touch with Burns and fostering the spirit, "Shall brithers be for a' that."

No. 157—BAILLIESTON CALEDONIAN Burns Club. Instituted 1901. Federated 5th October, 1906. Place and time of meeting, Reid's Hall, first Monday of month at 7.30 p.m. President, Wm. Reid, 74 Main Street, Baillieston; Vice-president, James Adams, 68A Main Street, Baillieston; *Secretary*, Donald Marfarlane, 35 Main Street, Baillieston; Committee, Peter Greenshields, C. Paterson, J. Buchanan, T. Waugh, G. Tait, and J. Russell. Special features of the Club—To cherish the name of Robert Burns, and foster a love for his writings, and generally to encourage a taste for Scottish literature, and to celebrate the memory of our National Bard, by an annual social meeting to be held on 25th January or as near thereto as possible.

No. 158—DARLINGTON Burns Club. Instituted 8th March, 1906. Federated 18th October, 1906. Place and time of meeting, Temperance Institute (average fortnightly during winter, no fixed night). President, Philip Wood, M.A., Grammar School, Darlington; Vice-presidents, William Foster, J.P., John Henderson, John M. Galt; *Secretary*, R. M. Liddle, 37 Langholm Crescent, Darlington; Treasurer, George Lawson; Committee—J. C. Veitch, John M'Gregor, James Sherlaw, Robert Storar, William Pullock, William Dobson, Dr Munro, Gavin Struthers, William Stevenson. Special features of the Club—Series of lectures to which friends (including ladies) are invited; annual Scottish concert; annual social gathering in addition to anniversary dinner.

No. 159—WALKER-ON-TYNE Burns Club. Federated 11th November, 1906. Place and time of meeting, Stack Hotel, Walker, Thursdays once a fortnight, at 7.30 from September till April. President, John M'Kay, 69 Welbeck Road, West Walker; Vice-presidents, John Keith, 132 Middle Street, West Walker, and James Crawford, 74 Corporation Street, Walker; *Secretary*, Henry F. Caldwell, 121 Welbeck Road, West Walker; Treasurer, Robt. M'Rory, 29 Eastbourne Avenue. Special features of the Club, to encourage the cultivation of a better knowledge of the poet and his works; also to bring together Scotsmen and other admirers o Burns so as to give more knowledge of Scottish literature.

No. 160—WHITBURN Burns Club. Instituted 23rd February, 1906. Federated November, 1906. Time of meeting, last Friday of every month from September to March at 8 p.m. Hon. President, Alex. Ure, K.C., M.P., Solicitor-General for Scotland; Hon. Vice-president, Geo. S. MacKnight, Esq., solicitor; President, Peter Peace, Blaeberryhill Farm, Whitburn; Vice-president, Wm. M'Kenzie, East Main Street, Whitburn; *Secretary*, Allan Johnston, Lea Street, Whitburn; Treasurer, John Johnston; Bard, James M'Harg: Committee—J. Greig, Wm. Sangster, George Gibson, James Wallace, D. Burton, Jno Aitken, Frank M'Gregor, and Joseph Young.

No. 161—CHARLESTON Burns Club, Paisley. Instituted 1905. Federated 1906. Place and time of meeting, 39 Stock Street, at 8.30 p.m. President, Robt. Kerr, 1 Mary Street, Paisley; Vice-president, Robt. Hamilton, 8 Townhead Terrace, Paisley; *Secretary*, Robt. Fleming, 68 Neilston Road, Paisley: Committee, Jas. Hamilton, David Lees, Geo. Archibald, W. A. Nelson, Alex. Smith, and Joseph Howard. Special features of the Club—To propagate the knowledge of Burns's writings in the district.

No. 162—PLYMOUTH and District Caledonian Society. Instituted 8th February, 1898. Federated 8th March, 1907. Place and time of meeting, Corn Exchange Hall, as arranged. President, James Thain, "Bon Accord," 11 Craven Avenue; Vice-president, Wm. Johnston, 10 Seaton Avenue, Mutlay; *Secretary*, P. Robertson, 6 Norman Avenue, Devonport; Committee, P. W. Allan, Wm. Scott, R.N., J. Stewart Hamilton, J. R. Brooks, J. Masson, and A. Wray. Special features of the Club—(1) To celebrate the birthday of Robert Burns; (2) to encourage the study of Scottish songs; (3) the promotion of friendly intercourse amongst the members, and to welcome brither Scots arriving from across the border.

No. 163—GATESHEAD and District Burns Club. Instituted 1887. Federated 1907. Place and time of meeting, Royal Hotel, Prince Consort Road, 1st Thursday in month. President, E. Bennett, Ravenscraig, Lesbury Road, Heaton, Newcastle-on-Tyne; Vice-president, James Roxburgh, 219 Wilberforce Terrace, Gateshead; *Secretary*, D. Bain, 13 Denmark Street,

Gateshead ; Committee, T. Thompson, T. Hetherington, D. Morrison, and G. Portes. Special features of the Club—To associate Scotsmen and admirers of Burns, to cultivate literary pursuits, to preserve an interest in Scottish manners, customs, and affairs, and for purposes of a kindred character.

No. 164—KINNING PARK Burns Club. Instituted 1881. Federated 16th April, 1907. Place and date of meeting, Masonic Hall, Rutland Crescent, second Wednesday of every month at 8 p.m. President, Edward Morris, 42 Paisley Road, West ; Vice-president, William Dickie, 8 Walmer Terrace, Ibrox ; *Secretary*, Thomas Deans, 8 Lambhill Street, Plantation ; Committee—Arch. Crawford, Thomas Porter, Robert Hutchison, Robert Yool, John Clark Thomson. Special features of the Club—The annual celebration of the birthday of Robert Burns, occasional meetings for the cultivation of social and intellectual intercourse, and the encouragement of Scottish literature amongst the members and friends.

No. 165—WALLSEND Burns Club. Federated 18th April, 1907. Place and date of meeting, Station Hotel, third Wednesday in each month. President, Arch. Gillespie, The Avenue ; Vice-president, John Macdonald, 10 Laburnum Avenue ; *Secretary*, R. Johnson, 76 Denham Terrace ; Treasurer, Charles Scott, 10 North View. Special features of the Club—To associate Scotchmen and admirers of Burns, to cultivate literary pursuits, to preserve an interest in Scottish manners, customs, and affairs, and for purposes of a kindred character.

No. 166—CLEVELAND Scottish Association. Instituted January, 1907. Federated July, 1907. President, Dr A. Brownlie, Drayton House, Newcomen Street, Redcar ; Vice-presidents, Dr Steel, Southfield Villas, Middlesbro, Dr Howat, Borough Road, Middlesbro, Dr W. S. Dickie, Ryedale Terrace, Middlesbro ; *Secretary*, Archie M'Callum, 46 Acton Street, Middlesbro ; Hon. Treasurer, John Wilson, 64 Palmerston Terrace, Woodlands Road, Middlesbro.

No. 167—THE BIRMINGHAM Burns Club. Instituted 13th January, 1906. Federated 1907. Place of meeting, Acorn Hotel, Temple Street, Birmingham. President, Andrew Barclay, 22 Park Road, Moseley, Birmingham ; Vice-presidents, T. M. Sloan, 15 Weatheroak Road, Sparkhill, Birmingham, W. E. Ross, 58 Church Road, Moseley, Birmingham, and Chas. Anderson, 131 Raun Street, Ladywood, Birmingham ; *Secretary*, Wm. Anderson, 3 Wrottesley Street, Birmingham ; Hon. Treasurer, M. Paton, 37 Congreve Street, Birmingham. Objects of the Club—To cherish the name of Robert Burns, Scotland's National Poet, and to foster a love for his writings, and generally encourage a taste for Scotch songs and literature. To promote friendly and social intercourse amongst Scotsmen resident in Birmingham and district. To celebrate the anniversary of the Poet's birthday by a social festival, and to renew our expressions of admiration for our great National Poet at other times and dates made famous in Scottish history through his writings.

INDEXES OF ARTICLES

AND THEIR WRITERS IN

ANNUAL BURNS CHRONICLE.

No. 1 (1892) ... ... *Edited by* JOHN MUIR.
Nos. 2-16 (1893-1907) ... *Edited by* DUNCAN M'NAUGHT.

THOSE who have frequent occasion to refer to their volumes of the *Chronicle* will probably be glad to have these indexes, limited as they are, to the sixteen numbers that have been issued. The first index is of authors; the second is confined to articles. Poems, reviews of books, Burns Federation and Burns Club notes, are not included. The very useful "Notes and Queries" are sufficiently numerous to justify an index to themselves, and this they will have in next issue of the *Chronicle*. Illustrations, also, will have a separate index.

These indexes, however, are merely temporary, and must ultimately give way to a complete index. It is submitted to the consideration of the Editor whether anything more useful to the student of Burns and his writings could be prepared than an analytical index to the contents—illustrations as well as text—of, say, the first twenty volumes of the *Annual Burns Chronicle*.

J. C. EWING.

INDEX OF AUTHORS.

ADAMS, J. Burns *versus* The "Pot Boiler," an impeachment and defence. III., 96-128.

— Deity or Dirt? Review of an old controversy on Burns. IV., 17-40.

ADDISON, W. I. Centenary edition [*Poetry of Burns*], a correction. X., 38-40.

AIKMAN, G. Engraved Portraits of Burns. IV., 72-5.

AITKEN, G. A. Editing of Burns's Letters. II., 46-52.

— Additional Burns Letters. III., 46-63.

— Some Missing Burns Manuscripts. IV., 41-8.

ANGUS, W. CRAIBE. Notes on the First and Early Editions [of Burns's *Poems*]. II., 83-90.

AUSTIN, A. On Burns, unveiling of Irvine Statue. *Illust.* VI., 21-32.

BALFOUR, A. J. On Burns. (Dumfries, 24th August, 1897.) VII., 44-52.

BAYNE, A. West Highland Tour and Highland Mary. XV., 102-8.

BEGG, R. BURNS-. "Bonnie Jean," a Memoir. I., 47-71.

— William Burness, a Sketch. II., 105-14.

BRODIE, C. L. Burns' Associations with West Renfrewshire. *Illust.* XIV., 80-95.

BROWN, A. S. Burns and the Ethics of his Times. XVI., 27-32.

— Works of Dr John Moore: A Literary Friend of Burns. XIII., 36-40.

BROWN, C. RAE-. Burns and Tennyson. II., 135-7.

— Death-day Centenary of Burns. IV., 145-8.

— London Burns Club. III., 133-5.

— Statue of Highland Mary at Dunoon. *Illust.* V., 109-10.

BRUCE, W. Influence of Burns on American Literature. I., 43-6.

BURNS, K. G. Genealogical Notes on the Family of Burnes or Burns. XV., 122.

— Relic of Burns. XV., 117.

CHISHOLM, Sir S. On Burns. XII., 73-8.

CONSTABLE, G. W. R. Burns-Begg, in Memoriam. X., 68-77.

DICK, J. Reminiscences of Nieces of Burns. X., 41-6.

DICK, J. C. Interleaved *Scots Musical Museum* Manuscript, New Light on Cromek. XIV., 66-72.

ESDAILE, G. Burns's Cottage and the Road to It. *Illust.* X., 78-90.

EWING, J. C. Burns-Dunlop Correspondence, Unpublished Letters XIII., 67-75.

— Craibe Angus Burnsiana. *Illust.* XIII., 105-8.

— George Thomson, John Wilson, and Gilbert Burns's "Appendix No. V." XIV., 27-32.

FERGUSON, R. C. MUNRO. Address, Unveiling of Burns Statue at Leith. VIII., 128-35.

FINDLAY, W. Lamb and his Literary Friends on Burns. XVI., 17-26.

FORREST, J. Religion of Burns. II., 95-104.

FRASER, J., and R. M. LOCKHART. Index to Notes in Kilmarnock Edition (W. S. Douglas). III., 5-23.

FREELAND, W. Proposed Lectureship on Scottish History and Literature IX., 45-50; X., 91-3; XI., 46-58. (*Portrait.*)

GIBB, J. T. Mauchline Kirkyard. *Illust.* VII., 67-74.

— More Mauchline Topography. *Illust.* V., 70-85.

GIBSON, A. Doubtful Edition of Burns. XI., 85-92.
GORDON, J. Stevenson on Burns, a Sketch. XI., 40-5.
HADDEN, J. C. Alloway: Cottage, Doon Brig, Monument, Mount Oliphant. *Illust.* III., 72-85.
— Burns from a Musical Point of View. I., 95a-100.
HALL, R. C. Reminiscences of Burns, with Account of his Portraits. II., 73-82.
HEWAT, K. Burns and the Other Side of Ayr. *Illust.* IV., 49-71.
— Burns and Upper Nithsdale. *Illust.* V., 86-98.
HOAR, G. F. Burns, Address. XI., 75-84.
HUNTER, J. J. Burns and the Legal Profession. IX., 91-105.
JOHNSTONE, D. L. Memorial to *The lassie wi' the lint-white locks.* *Illust.* XI., 100-4.
KILLIN, T. Burns and Ochiltree. *Illust.* XVI., 70-93.
— Burns and the Tennants of Glenconner. *Illust.* XV., 78-97.
KINNEAR, G. H. Glenbervie, the Fatherland of Burns. VII., 75-84.
LOTHIAN, R. B. Burns's Glasgow Haunts. XV., 114-7.
M'BAIN, J. Site of Burns's Monument at Alloway. XIII., 25-35.
M'CALLUM, A. Burns and the Devon. *Illust.* XII., 60-9.
— Burns as Tourist. *Illust.* XIII., 41-8.
MACFADZEAN, R. W. Burns's Excise Duties and Emoluments. VII., 53-66.
— Joseph Train. *Illust.* XIII., 76-88.
— Was Burns *Censured* by Board of Excise? V., 144-5.
M'ILWRAITH, W. Scottish Music and Song. IX., 28-44.
— Sketch of Scottish Literature from Earliest Times. X.-XVI.
— W. E. Henley as Burns Critic. VIII., 58-83.
MACKAY, A. S. Authentic Portraits of Burns. *Illust.* V., 51-62.
— Early Portraiture and Burns Portraits. II., 64-72.
M'MILLAN, W. S. Proposed Burns Memorial at Mauchline. V. 47-50.
M'NAUGHT, D. Auld Brig o' Ayr. XV., 109-13.
— Burns' Direct Descendants. III., 90-5; IV., 76-89.
— Burns Obituary, Addenda and Corrections. VII., 5-8.
— Cambusdoon MS. XV., 118-21.
— Chronology of Poetical Compositions of Burns. IV., 5-16.
— Currie's *Life* [*of Burns*] Annotated by J. Syme. XIII., 61-6.
— Documents Bearing on Gilbert's Debt to the Poet. *Facsimile.* IX., 77-90.
— Earnock Manuscripts, New Light on Currie's Biography. VII., 9-40; VIII., 5-41.
— Edinburgh Forgeries. II., 123-34; III., 139-40.
— Fauna and Flora of Burns. V., 19-33.
— Gray Manuscripts. V., 42-6.
— Hamilton Paul MSS. II., 91-4; III., 86-9.
— In Memoriam, D. Mackay. *Illust.* XVI., 94-103.

M'Naught, D. Kilmarnock and Vicinity. I., 72-8.
— Kilmarnock Burns Club. IV., 90-9.
— Kilmaurs and Neighbourhood. *Illust.* XVI., 33-41.
— Kirkpatrick Sharpe on Burns. XV., 75-7.
— Kirkpatrick Sharpe's Estimate of Burns, Unpublished Memorandum. XII., 96-102.
— *Merry Muses of Caledonia.* III., 24-45.
— Notable Burns MS. XI., 109-11.
— Panegyric on Burns. [Grahame's *Poems.*] VII., 102-4.
— Raucle Tongue of Burns. X., 26-37; XI., 29-39.
— Sterne Annotated by Burns. XIII., 45-7.
— Unpublished Burns Poem in *Macmillan's Magazine.* XI., 112-4.
— Volume [*The Patriots*] annotated by Burns. XI., 105-8.
Morison, J. B. Greenock Burns Club. II., 115-22.
Muir, James. Burns in Kirkoswald. *Illust.* XV., 27-74.
Muir, John. Summary of Life of Burns. I., 7-13.
— Summary of Posthumous History of Burns. I., 14-38; II., 28-33.
Munro, N. The late W. Craibe Angus. X., 95-8.
Murdoch, J. B. The second edition of [the *Poems* of] Burns. IV., 107-20.
Nash, E. B. Catalogue of Earnock MSS. as at 1899. IX., 107.
Pinnington, E. *Auld Lang Syne.* XIII., 89-104.
— Burns's *Ode for Washington's Birthday.* IX., 51-65. *Facsimile.*
— The disputed *Ode.* XI., 59-74.
— James Burnes of Montrose. XIII., 49-60.
— "The two Jeans." [Armour and Gardner.] XIV., 96-102.
Ranken, H. Burns and Irvine. *Illust.* XIV., 33-65.
Robertson, E. "Highland Mary" in the writings of Burns. II., 35-45.
— Mauchline and Neighbourhood. *Illust.* II., 53-63.
Robertson, W. The Auld Toun, parts adjacent, and their Burnsiana. *Illust.* XII., 84-95.
Rosebery, Lord. Oration at Dumfries, July 21, 1896. VI., 45-51.
— Oration at Glasgow, July 21, 1896. VI., 53-61.
— Edinburgh Appeal [on behalf of Auld Brig o' Ayr]. XVI., 116-8.
— Glasgow Appeal [on behalf of Auld Brig o' Ayr]. XVI., 142 4.
Shiells, R. An 1851 Celebration in Wisconsin. X., 47-64.
Simpson, R. Ellisland. *Illust.* VII., 85-96.
Sneddon, D. Burns Exhibition. V., 63-9.
Stafford, W. P. Oration, Unveiling of Burns Statue at Barre. IX., 115-9.
Stevenson, D. W. Portraits of Burns. *Illust.* I., 79-95.
Sulley, P. Alloway Monument. XI., 115-6.
— Burns in Dumfriesshire. *Illust.* IX., 66-76.
— Plea for Jean Armour. X., 65-7.

TODD, A. B. Burns, Farmer and Poet. III., 64-71.
— Old Scots Plough. *Illust.* VII., 40-3.
WALKER, D. Cupar Burns Club. III., 129-32.
WALKER, R. Burns Exhibition. VI., 131-9.
WALLACE, W. Burns in Dumfriesshire: Curried Biography. V. 34-41
— Burns, Jean Armour, and Highland Mary Again. VII., 97-101.
WALSH, J. Robert Ford. XV., 98-101.
WILSON, E. J. Gilbert Burns in East Lothian. *Illust.* V., 99-107.
WILSON, J. R. Story of Dumfries Mausoleum. IX., 5-27.
YOUNG, W. Burns and Elphinston. *Facsimile.* III., 136-8.

INDEX OF ARTICLES.

ADAMS, JAMES. Death of Dr J. Adams. IX., 120; X., 99-102. *Portrait.*
ALLOWAY. Alloway: Cottage, Doon Brig, Monument, Mount Oliphant; by J. C. Hadden. *Illust.* III., 72-85.
— A Monument, by P. Sulley. XI., 115-6.
— Site of Burns's Monument, by J. M'Bain. XIII., 25-35.
ANGUS, W. CRAIBE. Death of W. C. Angus. IX., 121.
— The Late W. C. Angus, by N. Munro. *Portrait.* X., 95-8.
— Craibe Angus Burnsiana, by J. C. Ewing. *Illust.* XIII., 105-8.
ARMOUR, JEAN. *See* BURNS, MRS ROBERT.
Auld Lang Syne, by E. Pinnington. XIII., 89-104.
AYR. The Auld Toun, part adjacent, and their Burnsiana; by W. Robertson. *Illust.* XII., 84-95.
— Auld Brig o' Ayr, by D. M'Naught. XV., 109-13.
— Preservation of Auld Brig. *Illust.* XVI., 42-69.
— Lord Rosebery's Edinburgh Appeal [for preservation of Auld Brig]. XVI., 116-8.
— Lord Rosebery's Glasgow Appeal [for preservation of Auld Brig]. XVI., 142-4.
BAIRD, JAMES. Cambusdoon MS., by D. M'Naught. XV., 118-21.
BARRE. Unveiling of Burns Statue at Barre, Vermont, U.S.A.: oration by W. P. Stafford. IX., 115-9.
BEGG, MISSES. Reminiscences of Nieces of Burns, by J. Dick. X., 41-6.
BEGG, R. BURNS: in memoriam, by G. W. Constable. *Portrait.* X., 68-77.
BIBLIOGRAPHY of Burns. I., 104-23; II., 153-82; III., 164-89; IV., 157-68; V., 116-26; VII., 120-9; IX., 125-9; X., 119-27.
— Doubtful Edition of Burns [*Songs*, 1820]; by A. Gibson. XI., 85-92.
— Dundee Copy of first edition, by F. H. VIII., 86-90.
— Notes on the first and early editions, by W. C. Angus. II., 83-90.
— Second Edition of Burns; by J. B. Murdoch. IV., 107-20.
BROWN, C. RAE-. The late C. R. Brown. *Portrait.* VII., 104-6.

BURNES, JAMES. J. Burnes of Montrose ; by E. Pinnington. XIII., 49-60.

BURNESS, WILLIAM. W. Burness, a sketch ; by R. Burns-Begg. II., 105-14.

BURNS, GILBERT. Documents bearing on Gilbert's debt to the Poet, by D. M'Naught. *Facsimile.* IX., 77-90.

— George Thomson, John Wilson, and G. Burns's "Appendix No. V.;" by J. C. Ewing. XIV., 27-32.

— G. Burns in East Lothian, by E. J. Wilson. *Illust.* V., 99-107.

BURNS, ROBERT: *biography.* Summary of life of Burns, by J. Muir. I., 7-13.

— Chronological Summary of Life and Writings of Burns. II., 5-27.

BURNS, MRS ROBERT. Authentic portrait of Jean Armour. *Illust.* IX., 106.

— "Bonnie Jean," a memoir ; by R. Burns-Begg. I., 47-71.

— Burns and Bonnie Jean. XII., 70-3.

— Burns, Jean Armour, and Highland Mary again ; by W. Wallace. VII., 97-101.

— Plea for Jean Armour ; by P. Sulley. X., 65-7.

— "The Two Jeans," by E. Pinnington. XIV., 96-102.

Burns and the Ethics of his Times, by A. S. Brown. XVI., 27-32.

Burns and the Legal Profession, by J. J. Hunter. IX., 91-105,

Burns as Tourist, by A. M'Callum. *Illust.* XIII., 41-8.

BURNS CLUBS. *See* names of clubs.

Burns-Dunlop Correspondence, unpublished letters ; by J. C. Ewing. XIII., 67-75.

BURNS FAMILY. Burns' direct descendants, by D. M'Naught. III., 90-5 ; IV., 76-89. (*Illust.*)

— Poet's Descendants. II., 34, 149.

— Genealogical Notes (chart) on the Family of Burnes or Burns, by K. G. Burns. XV., 122.

— Visit of Burns's Descendants to Kilmarnock. *Illust.* VI., 34-6.

Burns, Farmer and Poet, by A. B. Todd. III., 64-71.

Burns from a musical point of view. by J. C. Hadden. I., 95a-100.

Burns *versus* "The pot boiler," by J. Adams. III., 96-128.

Cambusdoon MS., by D. M'Naught. XV., 118-21.

CAMPBELL, MARY. *See* HIGHLAND MARY.

CARLISLE. Bust of Burns at C., unveiling ceremony. *Illust.* VIII., 116-27.

CENTENARY (1896). Centenary issue of *Burns Chronicle*, No. vi., 1897. *Illust.*

— Centenary of Burns [statue of Highland Mary] ; by C. Rae-Brown. IV., 145-8.

Centenary Edition [of *Poetry of Burns*], a correction ; by W. I. Addison. X., 38-40.

CHLORIS. *See* LORIMER, JEAN.

Chronological Summary of Life and Writings of Burns. II., 5-27.

Chronology of Poetical Compositions of Burns, with dates and particulars of first publication; by D. M'Naught. IV., 5-16.

COTTAGE. Burns' Cottage and the road to it, by G. Esdaile. *Illust.* X., 78-90.

— The Cottage in 1825; Miller Gowdie. XI., 93-9.

CROMEK, R. H. Cromek Correspondence (Earnock MSS.) VIII., 41-5.

— Interleaved *Scots Musical Museum* Manuscript, new light on Cromek; by J. C. Dick. XIV., 66-72.

CUPAR Burns Club, by D. Walker. III., 129-32.

CURRIE, JAMES. Burns in Dumfriesshire, Curried Biography; by W. Wallace. V., 34-41.

— Currie's *Life* [*of Burns*], annotated by J. Syme, by D. M'Naught. XIII., 61-6.

— Earnock Manuscripts, New Light on Currie's Biography; by D. M'Naught. VII., 9-40; VIII., 5-41.

Deity or Dirt? Review of an Old Controversy on Burns; by J. Adams. IV., 17-40.

DEVON. Burns and the Devon, by A. M'CALLUM. *Illust.* XII., 60-9.

Doubtful Edition of Burns [*Songs*, 1820], by A. Gibson. XI., 85-92.

DOUGLAS. Burns's Jamaica Connections. XII., 79-83.

DUMFRIES. Story of the Mausoleum, by J. R. Wilson. IX., 5-27.

DUMFRIESSHIRE. Burns and Upper Nithsdale, by K. Hewat. *Illust.* V., 86-98.

— Burns in Dumfriesshire, by P. Sulley. *Illust.* IX., 66-76.

— Burns in Dumfriesshire. Curried Biography; by W. Wallace. V., 34-41.

— Ellisland, by R. Simpson. *Illust.* VII., 85-96.

DUNLOP, MRS. Burns-Dunlop Correspondence, unpublished letters; by J. C. Ewing. XIII., 67-75.

EARNOCK MANUSCRIPTS. Catalogue of Earnock MSS. as at 1899, by E. B. Nash. IX., 107.

— Earnock Manuscripts, New Light on Currie's Biography; by D. M'Naught. VII., 9-40; VIII., 5-41.

EDINBURGH EDITION. Second Edition of [*Poems* of] Burns, by J. B. Murdoch. IV., 107-20.

Edinburgh Forgeries [of Manuscripts], by D. M'Naught. II., 123-34; III., 139-40.

Editing of Burns's Letters, by G. A. Aitken. II., 46-52.

ELLISLAND. *See* DUMFRIESSHIRE.

ELPHINSTON, JAMES. Burns and Elphinston, by W. Young. *Facsimile.* III., 136-8.

EXCISE. Burns's Excise Duties and Emoluments, by R. W. Macfadzean. VII., 53-66.

— Burns and Scotch Excise Board. XII., 26-44.

EXCISE. Was Burns *Censured* by Board of Excise? by R. W. Macfadzean. V., 144-5.

EXHIBITION, 1896. Burns Exhibition, by D. Sneddon. V., 63-9.

— Burns Exhibition, Opening Ceremony. *Illust.* VI., 13-21.

— [Account of] Burns Exhibition, by R. Walker. VI., 131-9.

Facsimile of an Early Burns manuscript. I., 39-42.

Fauna and Flora of Burns, by D. M'Naught. V., 19-33.

FORD, ROBERT; by J. Walsh. XV., 98-101.

Forgeries of MSS., by D. M'Naught. II., 123-34; III., 139-40.

FREELAND, WILLIAM: in memoriam. XIII., 109-11.

GARDNER, JEAN. "The two Jeans," by E. Pinnington. XIV., 96-102.

GILFILLAN, GEORGE. Deity or dirt? review of an old controversy [G. G. and H. Macdonald] on Burns, by J. Adams. IV., 17-40.

GLASGOW. Burns's Glasgow Haunts, by R. B. Lothian. XV., 114-7.

GLENBERVIE, the Fatherland of Burns, by G. H. Kinnear. VII., 75-84.

GLENCAIRN, EARL OF. Burns's Associations with West Renfrewshire, by C. L. Brodie. *Illust.* XIV., 80-95.

GLENCONNER. Burns and the Tennants of Glenconner, by T. Killin. *Illust.* XV., 78-97.

GOUDIE, MILLER. The Cottage in 1825; Miller Gowdie. XI., 93-9.

GRAHAME, JAMES. A Panegyric on Burns [Grahame's *Poems*], by D. M'Naught. VII., 102-4.

GRAY Manuscripts, by D. M'Naught. V., 42-6.

GREENOCK Burns Club, by J. B. Morrison. II., 115-22.

HENLEY, W. E. Henley as Burns Critic, by W. M'Ilwraith. VIII., 58-83.

HENLEY, W. E., and T. F. HENDERSON. Centenary Edition [*Poetry of Burns*], a correction: by W. I. Addison. X., 38-40.

HIGHLAND MARY. Burns, Jean Armour, and Highland Mary again; by W. Wallace. VII., 97-101.

— Highland Mary in the Writings of Burns, by E. Robertson. II., 35-45.

— West Highland Tour and Highland Mary, by A. Bayne. XV., 102-8.

— *Statue*: Death-day Centenary of Burns [statue of Highland Mary], by C. Rae-Brown. IV., 145-8.

— Statue of Highland Mary at Dunoon, by C. Rae-Brown. *Illust.* V., 109-10.

— [Unveiling of] Statue to Highland Mary at Dunoon. *Illust.* VI., 109-15.

Highland (West) Tour and Highland Mary, by A. Bayne. XV., 102-8.

Index to Notes in Kilmarnock Edition [of *Complete Poetical Works of Burns* (2 vols.)], by J. Fraser and R. M. Lockhart. III., 5-23.

Influence of Burns on American Literature, by W. Bruce. I., 43-6.

IRVINE. Burns and Irvine, by H. Ranken. *Illust.* XIV., 33-65.

— Poet Laureate on Burns: Unveiling of Irvine Statue. *Illust.* VI., 21-32

Jamaica Connections, Burns's. XII., 79-83.

KILMARNOCK. Kilmarnock and Vicinity, by D. M'Naught. I., 72-8.
— Kilmarnock Burns Club, by D. M'Naught. IV., 90-9.
Kilmarnock Edition, 1786. Dundee copy of first edition, by F. H. VIII., 86-90.
— Notes on the first and early editions, by W. C. Angus. II., 83-90.
Kilmarnock Edition [of *Complete Poetical Works of Burns* (2 vols.)], index to notes in ; by J. Fraser and R. M. Lockhart. III., 5-23.
KILMAURS and Neighbourhood, by D. M'Naught. *Illust.* XVI., 33-41.
KIRKOSWALD, Burns in ; by James Muir. *Illust.* XV., 27-74.
LAMB, CHARLES, and his Literary Friends on Burns, by W. Findlay. XVI., 17-26.
Lectureship on Scottish History and Literature, by W. Freeland. IX. 45-50 ; X., 91-3 ; XI., 46 58.
LEITH. Unveiling of Burns Statue, address by R. C. Munro-Ferguson. VIII., 128-35.
LONDON Burns Club, by C. Rae-Brown. III., 133-5.
LORIMER, JEAN. Memorial to "The lassie wi' the lint-white locks," by D. L. Johnstone. *Illust.* XI., 100-4.
LOTHIAN, EAST. Gilbert Burns in E. Lothian, by E. J. Wilson. *Illust.* V. 99-107.
MACDONALD, HUGH. Deity or Dirt? review of an old controversy [G. Gilfillan and H. M.] on Burns, by J. Adams. IV. 17-40.
MACFADZEAN, J. Notice of J. M. *Portrait.* XII., 26-9.
MACKAY, DAVID : in memoriam, by D. M'Naught. *Portrait.* XVI., 94-103.
Macmillan's Magazine, unpublished Burns poem in ; by D. M'Naught. XI., 112-4.
MANUSCRIPTS, BURNS. Edinburgh forgeries, by D. M'Naught. II., 123-34 ; III., 139-40.
— Facsimile of an early manuscript. I., 39-42.
— Gray Manuscripts, by D. M'Naught. V. 42-6.
— Notable MS., by D. M'Naught. XI., 109-11.
— Some Missing Manuscripts, by G. A. Aitken. IV., 41-8.
MAUCHLINE. Burns and Bonnie Jean, commemorative tablet. XII., 70-3.
— M. and Neighbourhood, by E. Robertson. *Illust.* II., 53-63.
— M. Kirkyard, by J. T. Gibb. *Illust.* VII., 67-74.
— More M. Topography, by J. T. Gibb. *Illust.* V., 70-85.
— Burns Memorial and Cottage Homes at M., by W. S. M'Millan. V., 47-50; laying of foundation-stone. *Illust.* VI., 86-108 ; inaugural ceremony. *Illust.* VIII., 91-115.
Merry Muses of Caledonia, by D. M'Naught. III., 24-45.
MIERS Portrait (Silhouette) of Burns. *See* PORTRAITS of Burns.
MONKTON and PRESTWICK. Burns and the other side of Ayr, by K. Hewat. *Illust.* IV., 49-71.

MOORE, JOHN. Works of J. M. : A Literary Friend of Burns ; by A. S. Brown. XIII., 36-40.

MUSIC. Burns from a Musical Point of View, by J. C. Hadden. I., 95a-100.

— Scottish Music and Song, by W. M'Ilwraith. IX., 28-44.

NASMYTH Portraits of Burns. *See* PORTRAITS of Burns.

NITHSDALE. *See* DUMFRIESSHIRE.

Notes on the First and Early Editions [of Burns' *Poems*], by W. C. Angus. II., 83-90.

OBITUARY, Burns. V., 5-18 : addenda and corrections, by D. M'Naught. VII., 5-8 ; addenda. X., 111-2.

OCHILTREE, Burns and ; by T. Killin. *Illust.* XVI., 70-93.

Ode for Washington's Birthday, Burns's ; by E. Pinnington. *Facsimile.* IX., 51-65. Disputed Ode, by E. Pinnington. XI., 59-74.

PAISLEY. Unveiling of Statue of Burns. *Illust.* VI., 115-23.

PAUL, HAMILTON. Hamilton Paul MSS., by D. M'Naught. II., 91-4 ; III., 86-9.

Plough, old Scots ; by A. B. Todd. *Illust.* VII., 40-3.

Poems, 1786-93. Notes on the first and early editions, by W. C. Angus. II., 83-90.

Poems, 1786. Dundee copy of First Edition, by F. H. VIII., 86-90.

Poems, 1787. Second Edition of Burns, by J. B. Murdoch. IV., 107-20.

PORTRAITS of Burns. Authentic Portraits of B., by A. S. Mackay. *Illust.* V., 51-62.

— Early Portraiture and the B. Portraits, by A. S. Mackay. II., 64-72.

— Engraved Portraits of B., by G. Aikman. IV., 72-5.

— Portraits of B., by D. W. Stevenson. *Illust.* I., 79-95.

— Reminiscences of B., with Account of his Portraits ; by R. C. Hall. II., 73-82.

Posthumous History of Burns, Summary ; by J. Muir I., 14-38 ; II., 28-33.

Raucle Tongue of Burns, by D. M'Naught. X., 26-37 ; XI., 29-39

REID (Miniature) Portrait of Burns. *See* PORTRAITS of Burns.

Relic of Burns [Tongs], by K. G. Burns. XV., 117.

Religion of Burns, by J. Forrest. II., 95-104.

Reminiscences of Burns. XII., 48-59.

Reminiscences of Burns, with account of his portraits ; by R. C. Hall. II., 73-82.

RENFREWSHIRE. Burns' Associations with West R., by C. L. Brodie. *Illust.* XIV., 80-95.

RIDDEL, ROBERT. Interleaved *Scots Musical Museum* manuscript, new light on Cromek ; by J. C. Dick. XIV., 66-72.

ROSS, PETER : in memoriam. XII., 103-8.

Scottish Music and Song, by W. M'Ilwraith. IX., 28-44.

SHARPE, CHARLES KIRKPATRICK. K. S. on Burns, by D. M'Naught. XV., 75-7.

SHARPE. Sharpe's estimate of Burns, unpublished memorandum; by D. M'Naught. XII., 96-102.

SKIRVING portrait of Burns. *See* PORTRAITS of Burns.

Song Competition instituted by Burns Federation, three prize songs. XVI., 118-29.

STATUES of Burns, by An Art Student. *Illust.* IV., 121-9.

— *See also* Barre, Carlisle, Irvine, Leith, and Paisley.

STERNE, LAURENCE. Sterne annotated by Burns, by D. M'Naught. XII., 45-7.

STEVENSON, R. L., on Burns, a sketch; by J. Gordon. XI., 40-5.

SYME, JOHN. Currie's *Life* [*of Burns*], annotated by J. Syme, by D. M'Naught. XIII., 61-6.

TAYLOR portrait of Burns. *See* PORTRAITS of Burns.

TENNANTS. Burns and the T. of Glenconner, by T. Killin. *Portraits.* XV., 78-97.

TENNYSON. Burns and T., by C. Rae-Brown. II., 135-7.

THOMSON, GEORGE. G. T., John Wilson, and G. Burns' "Appendix No. V."; by J. C. Ewing. XIV., 27-32.

— Addenda to Thomson correspondence. VIII., 46-57.

TRAIN, JOSEPH; by R. W. Macfadzean. *Illust.* XIII., 76-88.

"Two Jeans" [Armour and Gardner], by E. Pinnington. XIV., 96-102.

Unpublished Burns Poem in *Macmillan's Magazine*, by D. M'Naught. XI., 112-4.

Volume [*The Patriots*] annotated by Burns, by D. M'Naught. XI. 105-8.

WILSON, JOHN. G. Thomson, J. W., and G. Burns's "Appendix No. V.;" by J. C. Ewing. XIV., 37-52.

WISCONSIN, an 1851 Celebration in; by R. Shiells. X., 47-64.

ANNUAL

BURNS CHRONICLE & CLUB DIRECTORY

INSTITUTED 5TH SEPTEMBER 1891.

Edited by D. McNAUGHT, Kilmaurs.

No. XVIII.
JANUARY, 1909.

WOOD NOTES WILD
BETTER A WEE BUSH THAN NAE BIELD

PRICE:
ONE SHILLING & SIXPENCE.

PUBLISHED BY THE
BURNS FEDERATION.

PRINTED BY
J. MAXWELL & SON,
DUMFRIES.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE.
A Sketch of Scottish Literature from the Earliest Times —*Wm. M'Ilwraith*	1
The Scots Vernacular—*T. Callander Wade, M.A., LL.B.*	31
The Letters of Burns—*Elizabeth W. Ingram*	53
Burns and the Dominies—*Andrew M'Callum*	64
Scottish History Chair	85
The only Living Grandson of Robert Burns—James Glencairn Thomson Fund	100
The Nasmyth-Raeburn Portrait of Robert Burns—*J. C. Ewing*	104
Reproduction of the Thomson-Nasmyth Portrait—*Editor*	110
Cromek Convicted (A Review)—*Editor*	113
Some Centenary Tributes to Burns—*A. C. White, "Glasgow Herald" Library*	121
Lines on the Poet's Birthday—*From a Centenary Ode, 1859*	128
Club Notes	129
Notes and Queries	144
Annual Meeting of Federation	155
Club Directory	161

PREFACE.

In the course of the year, owing to the exceptional circumstances in which they found themselves placed, the Executive of the Federation found it necessary to take over all responsibility connected with the publishing of the *Chronicle*, and they have much reason to congratulate themselves on the success which has attended their efforts, and the loyal support they have received from a large number of the Federated Clubs.

The Editor also has been well supported, and feels confident that the present issue will recommend itself as maintaining the reputation which the *Chronicle* has already made as a reliable authority on everything relating to Burns and Burnsian literature.

D. M'NAUGHT,
Editor.

Benrig, Kilmaurs,
December 25th, 1908.

A SKETCH OF SCOTTISH LITERATURE FROM THE EARLIEST TIMES.

CHAPTER V.

EIGHTEENTH CENTURY.

JAMES MACPHERSON, who was designated by Dr Johnson the father of Ossian, may be taken as an appropriate author with whom to commence the present chapter, for the obvious reason that the poems of Ossian made an almost phenomenal impression on many of the leaders of taste and literature in Scotland and England, not only on their first appearance but indeed long after. In spite of their solemn pomp and grand eloquence the poems appealed to so many in the country in which they were published that it seems strange they have so long and so completely lost their power and fascination. Whatever may be thought of the Ossianic poems at this time of day, however, they undoubtedly exercised an important influence on the romantic movement in European literature. They were translated into most of the European languages, and received with an *eclat* which is well-nigh incredible to a more matter-of-fact generation. Napoleon the First carried them in his knapsack when on his campaigns, and read and re-read them with increasing interest; Herder and Schiller were charmed with them; Goethe was greatly influenced by them, and in his "*Sorrows of Werther*" he says "Ossian has taken the place of Homer in my heart and imagination." When Werther visits Charlotte for the last time he reads to her the greater portion of Ossian's "Songs of Selma." To wander in imagination over pathless wilds surrounded by

James Macpherson, 1738-1798.

impetuous whirlwinds, or to contemplate the pale moon as she sinks beneath the waves of the rolling sea corresponded with the gloomy and perturbed condition of Werther's mind at the time. It is difficult to account for this great popularity, except that the poems of Ossian just appeared at the psychological moment when so many people had become dissatisfied with the old ideas in the theological as well as the general literature of the age and time. For one thing, the supreme influence theology formerly exercised over the minds and imagination of men was fast giving way before the rising tide of rationalism which had acquired greater vitality by the writings of the encyclopædists. Moreover, the Ossianic craze was indicative of the desire for an extension of historical interest, and the deep-rooted dissatisfaction which prevailed respecting the old state of things was striving to find expression in the vague discontent of Wertherism. Roughly speaking this was the cast of mind which led to a new departure in the literary spirit of the age, though perhaps not the direct cause of the new departure itself. It can fairly be claimed at all events that the Ossianic poems were one of the many impulses which disclosed the utter inadequacy of the old clothing for the new thoughts which were pressing themselves upon the philosophical, religious, and political systems of the period, and in turn were assuming such a variety of literary forms far too complex to be summed up in any particular formula. It may be claimed for Macpherson that an author whose achievements either as a translator or as an original poet became so great a factor in the literary sentiment of his day and generation, is entitled to more than a passing reference. James Macpherson, related to the chief of the clan of that name in the Highlands of Scotland, was the son of a small farmer, and was born at Ruthven in the county of Inverness in 1738. After receiving the necessary elementary education he was sent to King's College, Aberdeen, where he remained about two years, during which he manifested no exceptional gifts or close attention to study, but was occasionally accused of diverting the younger students from their studies in class by his humorous and doggerel rhymes. This was the first manifestation

of his latent talents, which appeared to be striving for an outlet to express themselves in a more artistic manner. Our author's first ambitious effort was the publication of the "Highlander" in 1758, when twenty years of age. The "Highlander" was a heroic poem in six cantos, and was eminently suggestive of a rugged and uncultured genius; indeed, such as might be expected to emanate from a rustic youth with a superabundance of health and vitality. With the growth of taste and discretion, however, he soon became ashamed of his first production, and endeavoured to withdraw it from circulation, but its circulation had been so limited that he might have saved himself the trouble. Like so many other Scots students at the time, Macpherson was destined for the Church, but became a schoolmaster in the Charity School at Ruthven of Bendenoch, subsequently becoming private tutor in the family of Graham of Balgowan, Member of Parliament for Perthshire. In the course of his travels in 1759 with young Balgowan, who afterwards became Lord Lynedock, he met at Moffat Wells the Rev. John Home, author of *Douglas*, to whom he showed what he said were fragments of ancient Gaelic poetry still recited in the Highlands of Scotland. Home was at once full of delight and enthusiasm for what he believed was new-found knowledge, and his curiosity knew no bounds; but Macpherson, calm and to all appearance unmoved, assured him that one of the favourite amusements of the Highlander on his native heath was to listen to the tales and compositions of their ancient bards, of which the fragments he had shown him were examples. With the thought of Olympia vividly before his mind, and an ambition to exalt his native Highlands to equal importance with ancient Greek competitors in poetry and eloquence, Macpherson insinuated that these fragments were illustrative in some degree of the pathos and excellent poetical power which had hitherto been concealed from a great portion of the literary world. The author of *Douglas* prevailed upon Macpherson to give him a few more examples of what he led him to infer were translations from this rich mine of Gaelic poetry. These he obtained and conveyed to Dr Hugh Blair, Professor of Rhetoric and Belles-lettres in Edinburgh

University, who published them without further delay. The result was, the reading public was surprised, in 1760, by the volume entitled *Fragments of Ancient Gaelic Poetry*, collected in the Highlands of Scotland, and translated from the Gaelic or Erse language. The Poet Gray, Professor Adam Ferguson, John Home, Dr Blair, with other competent judges, were lavish in their praise, and a subscription was made to enable Macpherson to exploit the Highlands with the object of collecting other pieces. To all appearance this tour was eminently successful, for in 1761 Macpherson published "Fingal," an epic poem in six books, and in 1763 "Temora," another epic in eight books—and all the world wondered. It was assumed that as far back as the third or fourth century, away among the remote mountains and islands of Scotland, there existed a people who not only exhibited generous and heroic qualities but a strong poetic fervour which had been nourished and kept aglow by oral tradition through untold centuries. Several had their doubts about the authenticity of the poems, others disbelieved; but a still greater number clung to the idea, as Gibbon put it, that "Fingal fought and Ossian sang;" for, even though it might be an illusion, it had all the charm of romance, and could not be lightly surrendered. By way of a test, David Hume put the question on a very simple issue: "Show us the original poems from which you say these translations have been made, and tell us how they have been thus wonderfully preserved during so many centuries." To Hume's pointed appeal Macpherson haughtily refused to give the public any satisfaction on the subject. The sullen silence of Macpherson was likely to mar more than one reputation among the critics, and Dr Blair, the chief among them, exerted himself to procure at second-hand a variety of testimonies in favour of the authenticity of the poems he had so persistently and eloquently advocated. The upshot was that Dr Blair collected and published eleven different letters from men of reputed authority in the Highlands, to the effect that in 1763, when "Fingal" and "Temora" were published, several people were living in the Highlands and islands of Scotland, who had either Gaelic

manuscripts in their possession or could recite long passages from traditionary Gaelic poetry, similar in subject and composition to those published in English by James Macpherson. But this was not deemed sufficient by many to allay the suspicion which still clung to Macpherson, and they persistently and emphatically demanded a sight of the original poems before the accusation of fraud against him could be withdrawn. It was all to no purpose however, the originals were not produced, and the question remained in this unsatisfactory condition ; but amid the strife of controversy James Macpherson escaped for a time with the £1200 the publication of the poems had yielded him. In the meantime he was appointed Secretary to Governor Johnson at Pensacola ; but he soon quarrelled with his employer, and after visiting the West Indian Islands and the North American Colonies he returned to his native land. He lost no time after his return in resuming his literary activity, and, joining the ranks of historical writers, he wrote a work entitled *An Introduction to the History of Great Britain and Scotland.* The impression he wished to convey was that this work was undertaken for his own amusement more than anything else, but it was not accepted in this light by the reading public. He had given it to the world, and it was now public property, subject to the approval or disapproval of all who might or might not take it seriously. Consequently the Rev. Mr Whitaker, the author of *The History of Manchester*, took a strong and serious view of the whole business, and he was an antiquarian of no mean order. In the very name of the book battle was scented from afar, for it bore the title of *The Genuine History of the Britons Asserted*, and was written as a refutation of Macpherson's work. In the course of the introduction of this volume Whitaker says that "Macpherson's *Introduction* has thrown back the progress of historical knowledge, and has once more involved the annals in all the sophistry of fiction and fancy." Indeed, the work has little or no claim to rank as authentic history, but rather appears as if Macpherson had spun history out of his own bowels as the spider spins its web, and is only worth perusal on account of the elegance of its

style and its luxuriant fancy. Just as he wove a web of poetic fancy round Celtic tradition, so he creates a Celtic Paradise in which the early Caledonians were invested with romantic garb more rich and fanciful than is even remotely hinted at in the pages of Tacitus. With all his ambition and unscrupulousness Macpherson was a man of varied gifts and accomplishments, and he next assumed the *rôle* of a Greek scholar by producing in 1773 a translation of Homer's *Iliad*, in the same kind of poetical prose as his poems of Ossian, which was variously estimated. To some it gave much satisfaction, and even delight, but the majority of competent judges received it with ridicule, and pronounced it a pompous performance conceived in extreme bad taste. By this time the dispute as to the authenticity of the poems of Ossian had almost spent its fury, but it was revived again by Dr Samuel Johnson with that acrimony of which he was so capable, having become more firmly convinced than ever by his tour with Boswell to the Hebrides that the poems were an imposture. Johnson's denunciation roused Macpherson to the pitch of threatening his critic with personal chastisement suggestive of the prize-ring rather than the duel which was the fashion amongst gentlemen of the day who had literary and political disputes to settle. To this threat Dr Johnson wrote a characteristic reply, which is so well known that it need not be reproduced in detail, except to say that it also suggests the prize-ring, with the proviso "that what he could not do himself the law should do for him." Although Macpherson took no further notice of Johnson, the doctor's defiant attitude appears to have subdued his contumacious tone of mind and recalled him to reason, for he at once settled down to the writing of a history of Great Britain from the Restoration to the Accession of the House of Hanover. The work was completed and published in 1775, in two volumes, and differed in every particular from the *Introduction to the History of Great Britain and Scotland*, which so kindled the ire of Mr Whitaker. Like its forerunner, however, this work also produced a great deal of irritation and censure, especially among the old Whigs, because of its ruthless discounting of many of the pious fictions which

had hitherto lent lustre and glory to the part the Whigs played in the events of the Revolution. The anger and denunciation of the Whigs, like a stormy sea against a rock-bound coast, spent its fury in vain, for the Original Papers from which Macpherson had evolved his history defied contradiction and criticism. Obviously it was a strange irony of Fate that the same individual who exhibited so much anger and disdain when his own critics demanded the production of the original documents of the Ossianic poems, should now triumph on the strength of original documents and novelty of treatment, which more than all else constitute the true basis of authentic history. Although this historical treatise was rendered so impregnable by the author's *modus operandi*, it only confirmed the opinion of his critics that if it had been in his power to produce the original poems ascribed to Ossian he would have done so rather than have suffered the humiliation his Highland pride sustained. The tact and ability Macpherson manifested in writing history inspired the confidence of the Government of the Duke of Grafton, who induced him to combat the arguments put forward by the advocates of American Independence—a task which he willingly undertook. With this object in view he wrote a pamphlet, which was published in 1776 and circulated in political circles with much industry. Four years later, and under the auspices of the same Government, he also wrote *A History of the Opposition in Parliament during the Session of 1779*, which soon became immensely popular by reason of its ability and the elegance of its style. It was believed that the author of the *Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire* was the only writer of the day who could command the grand style to the same extent, and for some time after it was published it was generally ascribed to Gibbon. By this time Macpherson had established his reputation as a writer of history on a solid basis, and as a reward for his political services he was appointed agent for the Nabob of Arcot, in whose interest he employed his talents to the satisfaction of the great trader and all else concerned. During his connection with this office Macpherson's pen was seldom inactive, and among other productions he wrote the

"Letters from Mohammed Ali Chan, Nabob of Arcot, to the Court of Directors, to which is annexed a State of Facts relative to Tanjore, with an Appendix of Original Papers," published 1777, besides a fragment of a work on the East Indian Company. Owing to his industry and genius Macpherson had now attained a position of wealth and influence, which not only astonished those who had been acquainted with him in his early days, but made him sufficiently popular to secure a seat in Parliament. In 1780 he was returned for the Borough of Camelford, and re-elected by the same constituency in 1784-1790. At this time of day it is difficult to understand how he retained the support and confidence of his constituency, for he does not appear ever to have spoken in support of or against any measure brought before the House during the whole course of his Parliamentary representation. To a generation far removed from the din and strife incurred regarding the authenticity of the Ossianic poems, it may fairly be assumed that Macpherson has not had the justice done to his genius and talent they deserve.

Whatever may be said in depreciation of the construction of the poetry itself, with its inflated metaphor and bombast, it must be admitted that Macpherson has conveyed in it the thought and spirit of the Celtic genius, as it was and as it may still be found in the character and thought of the Northern Gael. The attempt to inspire the public with the belief that the poems of Ossian were translated from Gaelic originals when the greater number of them emanated from his own pen, did not say much for his honesty, though it is highly creditable to his genius. Moreover, his moral character in other respects was not beyond reproach, and that was fatal to his literary reputation at a time when the public refused to judge a man's works apart from the character of the man himself. Even Dr Johnson, in his menacing letter to Macpherson respecting the authenticity of the Ossianic poems, did not refrain from dragging Macpherson's moral character into public view. "What I hear of your morals," he says, "inclines me to pay regard not to what you shall say, but what you shall

prove." At such a time it were needless to urge in mitigation of his offences against society morals that he was not so callous as to cast his illicit offspring on a cold, uncharitable world unprovided for, with the disgrace of their parentage upon their innocent heads, but he left them each a substantial legacy so that they might have a more favourable start in life than had fallen to his own lot. With regard to his vanity there can be no two opinions, and the vanity which was so much a part of his life clung to him in the hour of death. Lest posthumous fame should fail, he left a sum of money to defray the expenses of erecting a monument on his own estate of Belville, in Scotland, and instructions in his will that his body should be taken from Scotland and interred in Westminster Abbey, where it was laid in Poets' Corner. When James Macpherson made his *debut* in the world of letters his claim was merely that of the translator, but when he made his final exit from it he evidently desired to establish for himself the more presumptuous claim of poet. There is little doubt but the Ossianic poems are all, or nearly all, the work of Macphersom's own hand, and in spite of all that has been said to the contrary by advocates of their Gaelic origin, they could be produced by a youth of a romantic turn of mind, superior ability, and poetic gift. To whatever extent Macpherson may have incorporated the poetic spirit of the Highland Celt in these poems, they appeared to have appealed to a sentiment which was prevalent throughout Europe at the time. Indeed, some permanent results of the Ossianic movement may be detected even in the later literature which prides itself in declaring its complete emancipation from its influence. Beyond being affected in a similar manner by the prevailing sentiment, there is little in the poems which specially appeal to the poetic sentiment of the Lowland Scot and his Saxon neighbour, except in an antiquarian sense, which gradually disappeared as soon as their authenticity was seriously questioned. Considerable space has thus been given to Macpherson owing to the vogue Ossian once had in literary circles.

Little need be devoted to our next author, James Muirhead, though he recalls us more directly to the poetical sentiment of the Lowlander. He was a small light among larger constellations, for he might be described as the poet of one song, but the ballad literature which does not include "Bess, the Gawkie," cannot be called quite complete. This well-known song, which has been so long popular in the West of Scotland, is said to have had its origin in a love affair connected with its author which had occurred during his college curriculum. Whether this may be so or not, it has long survived the circumstances which are said to have inspired it. "Bess, the Gawkie," is characteristic of its author, and contains a pawkie humour which prevails in his prose writings and sermons. James Muirhead was the eldest son of Muirhead of Logan, in Kirkcudbrightshire, a well-known and celebrated family. He was born in East Logan in 1742, and was educated at the Dumfries Grammar School, subsequently going to Edinburgh University at the age of twelve with the view of studying the law, but he soon gave it up for Divinity. While at Edinburgh he was regarded by his fellow-students as a young man far above the average in ready wit and general ability. In 1770 he was ordained minister of the Parish Church of Urr, in Kirkcudbrightshire. On the death of his father he succeeded to the family property of Logan, which made him a freeholder, entitling him to a county vote. On more than one occasion he came into collision with the poet Burns, and belonging as they did to different political parties they indulged in lampooning each other when party feeling ran high. In 1796 Muirhead received the degree of D.D. from Edinburgh University, and was afterwards known as Dr Muirhead of Logan. He was succeeded in the Parish Church of Urr by Alexander Murray, the famous linguist, who from a shepherd boy became the greatest linguist of his day. While Murray was residing at the Manse of Urr, a despatch from the Governor of Tigree in Abyssinia to George III. was sent to him by the Marquis Wellesley as the only person in the British dominions likely to be able to translate it, which

James Muirhead, 1742-1808.

he did without difficulty, receiving the thanks of the King and Government.

Like Muirhead, John Ewen has been immortalised by one song, but he is even less famous than the author of "Bess, the Gawkie," inasmuch as it is not known that he wrote anything else save "The Boatie Rows." Ewen had the reputation of being a man of musical talent and lyrical taste. He was a native of Montrose, and son of a tinker, was born 1741, and the assumption is that his education was only such as qualified him for a business career. While in his teens he followed the trade of a pedlar, which he must have plied with some degree of success. When he was about twenty years of age he settled in Aberdeen as a hardware merchant, and built up a considerable fortune without meanness. Indeed, he had the reputation of being a highly intelligent man, and of a charitable disposition. "The Boatie Rows" was a great favourite with Burns, who thought it worthy to rank with "There's Nae Luck Aboot the House." "Ca' the Yowes to the Knowes," in one form or other has had a popularity equal to, if it does not really surpass, that of "The Boatie Rows," and we are indebted to Isobel Pagan, 1741-1821, for the first version of it. The authoress is included among the Ayrshire contemporaries of Burns, though the Poet does not appear ever to have met her; otherwise we should have known of it, as she was just one of those personalities with whom Burns would have enjoyed a fusilade of repartee and wit. The vivacious Isobel was born in Ayrshire in 1741, and lived most of her days in a hovel near Muirkirk, Ayrshire, where she was known to have done a trade in smuggled whisky. She is said to have amused her customers with her sarcastic wit as well as entertained them with songs of merriment. Her vocal powers were well known in the district, where she had a reputation for natural gifts and originality. In 1805 there was published at Glasgow a collection of songs and poems under her name, but no great merit can be claimed for them except the song referred to above, and to which might perhaps be added the song entitled "The Crook and

John Ewen, 1741-1821.

Plaid." The last verse of her excellent song, "Ca' the Yowes to the Knowes," was written by Burns, and is as follows:—

> "While waters wimple to the sea,
> While day blinks i' the lift sae hie,
> Till clay-cauld death shall blin' my e'e,
> Ye aye shall be my dearie."

Readers need scarcely be reminded that another set of words with the same title was also written by Burns. Isobel Pagan suggests another authoress who may be referred to in the same connection, though she was known apart from her poetical efforts as the wife of John Hunter, the distinguished Edinburgh surgeon. Mrs Hunter, 1742-1821, was a person of superior intellectual gifts, and wrote verses from an early age, which were not published in a collected form till 1802. When the volume appeared it was subjected to a fierce criticism by Jeffrey, the editor of the *Edinburgh Review*, who, during his connection with that periodical succeeded in killing more than one literary reputation. Irrespective of this, however, it is to her honour that her songs were set to music by Haydn, and were at one time popular. The one which is best remembered by a later generation is that entitled "My Mother Bids Me Bind my Hair," nor is the one entitled "To-morrow" void of fine sentiment and genuine poetry. Perhaps no one song has been more popular in Scotland than "Cauld Kail in Aberdeen," and no better proof can be given of this than the fact that there are five different versions of it in existence. Two of these are anonymous, and will be found in Herd's collection and in Dale's *Scottish Songs*. A third was written by William Reid, a bookseller in Glasgow, whose only title to remembrance is this one production, a fourth was by Lady Nairn, the authoress of the "Land of the Leal," and the fifth and best was written by Alexander, the fourth Duke of Gordon, 1734-1827. The Duke of Gordon had the reputation of being the most gifted nobleman of his time. His love of field sports and expert knowledge of them have long survived him, and he was also a man of great military tact and skill, having at one time raised at his own expense two Highland regiments for the King; but he is best known to a later generation as the patron of Burns.

Amongst this small group of minor songsters the name of William Watson must be included. He was a tailor to trade, and as tradition has it, made Lord Byron's first pair of breeks. Watson was a native of Aberdeen, and was a man of a good deal of intelligence and originality, being popularly known as Deacon Watson. Although his individuality may have had something to do with the preservation of his name, his song, "The Kail Brose of Scotland," has had more. In this song there is a strong admixture of patriotic sentiment, humour, and vivacity, which is said to have been inspired under the following circumstances. During the American War there was an English regiment quartered at Aberdeen, and with the pleasant recollections of the past vividly before their mind they often played "The Roast Beef of Old England." Watson, feeling his national dignity deeply touched, produced as a counterblast, "The Kail Brose of Scotland," from which the following lines are quoted :—

William Watson, 1744-1831.

"When Wallace and Bruce turned the chase on their foes,
They saired them o' fighting wi' very few blows,
The bauldest cried out, 'Let us turn, they've got brose!'
Oh, the kail brose of auld Scotland,
And oh, the Scottish kail brose ;
Then our sodgers were steel frae the heel to the nose,
Wi' the plaid and the kilt, the claymore, and the hose,
And the bag o' oatmeal at their backs to be brose.
Oh, the kail brose," &c.

His other most popular song is "The Wee Wifukie," which is more distinguished for its humorous incident than its good poetry, and was for some time attributed to Alexander Geddes, but Watson's authorship is now firmly established.

James Fordyce also claims a passing notice. He was a native of Aberdeen, and became a Presbyterian minister, who, in addition to being a poet, had other literary gifts which made him popular in his day. He published a number of sermons and clerical studies which were much admired for their grace of style. His first appointment was that of minister of Brechin, and subsequently of a Presbyterian Church in London, where his

James Fordyce, 1720-1796.

preaching was much admired, attracting large congregations. The distinguished actor, David Garrick, occasionally attended his Church, to which he was attracted by his superb oratory, of which he spoke in the highest terms. To Fordyce's other qualities must be added an admirable character and disposition; but he was a man of too liberal views to be cribbed, cabined, and confined within the limits of any particular creed, and he was more devoted to ethical principles than theological formulæ. After a misunderstanding with his colleague, which induced a split in his congregation, his popularity slowly but steadily declined, and in 1783 he left London, retiring first to Hampshire, and finally to Bath, where he died in 1796. In 1786 he published a volume of poems, and in 1788, two years afterwards, there was published at Edinburgh, *A Collection of Hymns and Sacred Poems*, bearing the name of James Fordyce, which must be assigned to the same pen. His song entitled "The Black Eagle" has in it a tinge of melancholy, indicative of the closing years of his gradually saddening life. It was written by him for a pathetic air of that name in *Oswald's Collection of Scots Tunes.*

Hector Macneill, 1746-1818.

Hector Macneill, who is entitled to a more important position, is perhaps better known to his countrymen than any one of the half-dozen preceding authors alluded to, and the quantity of his poetry, not to mention its quality, is greater than that of all of them put together. In his own day his reputation was made by "Scotland's Scaith," or "Will and Jean," but in more recent times he is better known for his lyrical productions, which are at least half-a-dozen in number. Hector Macneill, though descended from an old Highland family, was born at Rosebank, on the classic banks of the river Esk, near Edinburgh. He was sent to the Stirling Grammar School, where he had all the advantages of first-class instruction from the learned Dr David Doig, who was not only known for his dissertations on mythology, mysteries, and philosophy, but for his controversy with Lord Kames on the

early history of man ; and in him Lord Kames recognised a foeman worthy of his steel. In his early years Macneill led an adventurous life with the view of catching "Dame Fortune's golden smile," which was engendered by the impecunious circumstances of his youth. Being an impressionable youth, like Robert Burns he owed his first poetical inspiration to the tender passions, though it is generally believed that those youthful effusions have not been preserved. Nor were his efforts wholly confined to song-writing, for at an early period he made a venture in prose with a legendary tale entitled "The Harp." Soon after he commenced it, however, he embarked for Jamaica, the result being that "The Harp" was laid aside for the time-being. Very soon after he arrived in Jamaica he realised that there was a great difference between the adventurer's dream and actual experience, and determined to return to his native land. On his passage home he wrote the second and concluding part of the tale, which was published in its complete form at Edinburgh in 1789. He had not been long in Scotland before he was induced to embark for the East Indies by the prospect of a favourable settlement, but he had scarcely settled down in the East Indies when his prospects were shattered by a change in the administration, and he was compelled to return to his native country a second time. Disappointment does not appear to have soured his disposition, or darkened his outlook upon the world, and he commenced song-writing in his native vernacular with the utmost good spirit. Among our author's songs which are still popular in Scotland may be cited, "O Tell Me how for to Woo," "The Lammie," "I Loo'd ne'er a Laddie but ane," "Jeanie's black e'e," "Come under my Plaidie," and "Saw ye my Wee Thing," Macneill was thoroughly imbued with the idea that music should play an important part in all successful song-writing, and the songs cited were composed to existing pastoral and Gaelic airs. While his songs were delighting to many of his countrymen, his state of health was so capricious that the power to either read or write had well-nigh forsook him but ; the charm of music and song still held him

under their spell, and we find him describing his condition thus—

"Kind, leil companion, without thee,
Ah! well a-day, what should I be
When jeer'd by fools wha canna see
My inward pain;
Aneath thy sheltering wing I flee,
And mak' my name.

There, seated, smiling by my side,
For hours together wilt thou bide,
Chanting auld tales o' martial pride,
And love's sweet smart,
Till, glowing warm, thy numbers glide
Straight to the heart

'Tis then wi' powerful plastic hand
Thou wav'st thy magic-working wand,
And stirring up ideas grand
That fire the brain,
Aft whirl'st me swift to Fairy-land,
'Mang fancy's train."

Not able to use his pen, he composed, by the help of memory, long poems without committing a single line to paper. "Scotland's Scaith," or the "History of Will and Jean; "The Waes o' War;" "The Links o' Forth;" and "The Scottish Muse" were all composed in this way, quickly following each other. "Will and Jean," the most distinguished of these, went through five editions of fifteen hundred copies each in seven weeks, and during the course of the year it reached a fourteenth edition. In the dedication of the poem to Dr David Doig, his old tutor, he says, "Impressed with the baneful consequences inseparable from an inordinate use of ardent spirits among the lower orders of society, and anxious to contribute something that might at least tend to retard the contagion of so dangerous an evil, it was conceived in the ardour of philanthropy." The concluding verse of "Will and Jean" is just a trifle crude; the author is evidently so deeply impressed with the evils whisky has brought upon poor Caledonia that he has sacrificed art to vehemence, and concluded a poem of much excellency with a shriek. Taking the poem as a whole, however, it is simple and natural, and the dramatic situations are reached with skill and effect, manifesting much true

and genuine passion. "The Waes o' War" is evidently written with the view of illustrating the painful climax to the history of "Will and Jean," who, after three years' separation, are re-united, during which time they experienced many hardships and the direst poverty.

"After three lang years' affliction,
A' their waes now hush'd to rest,
Jean ance mair in fond affection
Clasps her Willie to her breast;

Tells him a' her sad, sad suffering,
How she wandered, starving, poor,
Gleaning Pity's scanty offerings
Wi' three bairns frae door to door."

When Macneill returned to Scotland from the Indies in 1800, he found that his works were still in general request, and surreptitious editions of many of his songs being set to music and offered for sale in shops, he was induced to publish a complete collected edition of his works. After being revised by the author the collection appeared in 1801 in two volumes, and soon became popular with the general public, going through several editions in the next ten years. In 1812 a third edition was published, to which a war-song was added, entitled "The Battle of Barrosa," which did not enhance his fame in any way, and it would have been as well if it had been excluded altogether. Some versatility can be claimed for our author even in his later years, for in 1811-12 he appeared in a new literary function by the publication of a series of works, two of which were entitled "By-Gane Times and Late Come Changes," and "Town Fashions," which were presented in verse. The third was a historical tale, entitled *The Scottish Adventurers, or the Way to Rise.* All three were designed to show that with by-gane times, wisdom and morality and many of the virtues which were manifest in the character of the people of old were gradually but surely vanishing. The assumption is that ill-health had ploughed deeply into his constitution, and thus he was predisposed to judge events through the "sere and yellow leaf," only seeing degeneracy and corruption in the changing conditions of moral and intellectual life. If the literary efforts of Macneill had terminated with his collected works his fame would not have

suffered to the same extent, but he attempted to add to his well-earned laurels when his physical nature could give no new stimulus to thought, but only have a deteriorating effect on his mind.

In one respect at least the life of Michael Bruce differed from that of Hector Macneill. While Macneill lived till old age bound him to the past, and his outlook upon life became narrow and circumscribed, Bruce was cut off in the spring-time of his age before his intellectual faculties were matured or had a chance of attaining the full measure of their strength. Michael Bruce was born in 1746, of poor parents, at Kinnesswood in Kinross-shire, where his father was a weaver, and a man with a deep sense of religious duty which generated the desire to give his children as good an education as his humble circumstances would allow. To further this end Michael was put to herd cattle in the summer months in the vicinity of Loch Leven, amid the scenery overlooking the loch and its ruined castle with its romantic associations of the past. There he held communion with Nature, getting poetical inspiration amid its solitude, where the day-dreams of his boyhood were seldom disturbed by the sight of a fellow mortal. When in his fifteenth year a relation of his father left him a small legacy, amounting to a little over £11, which his father carefully set aside for the education of his son, thus furnishing another proof of the love of education among the poorer classes in Scotland, which has made North Britain a power throughout the world. He went to college in December, 1762, just when he was about sixteen years of age, and was enrolled a student at Edinburgh University, where he was soon distinguished for general proficiency and taste in poetry, which was esteemed among the Scottish peasantry as the acme of all literary attainment. After attending college for three sessions he became a schoolmaster at Gairney Bridge on a salary of £11 per annum, but soon gave it up for one which held out better prospects at a place called Forest Mill, on the banks of the Devon, in Clackmannanshire. While at Gairney Bridge, he had formed an

Michael Bruce, 1746-1767.

attachment to a young woman, and wrote on the occasion of his departure a song called "Lochleven no More," (in imitation of Allan Ramsay's "Lochaber no More,") from which the following verses are taken :—

> "Farewell to Lochleven and Gairney's fair stream,
> How sweet on its banks of my Peggy to dream ;
> But now I must go to a far distant shore,
> And I'll maybe return to Lochleven no more.
>
> No more in the spring shall I walk with my dear,
> Where gowans bloom bonny and Gairney runs clear ;
> Far hence I must wander—my pleasure is o'er,
> Since I'll see my dear maid and Lochleven no more."

It was in 1765 he completed his Arts course and entered the Divinity Hall in connection with the Burgher or Association Synod with the view of becoming a minister, which was still regarded in Scotland as the profession most favourable for the attainment of social and intellectual distinction. The idea of having a son "to wag his head in a pu'pit" was the one dream of ambition which took possession of the Scottish mother in circumstances however humble, irrespective of qualification for such a profession ; thus many a poor minister has been made, and good cobbler, tinkler, or tailor lost to the community. Bruce's absence from Lochleven and the object of his affection was not destined to be for long, and though he manfully struggled against failing health at Forest Hill for a while, he was soon compelled to return to his father's cottage and the associations of his early youth, to remain till he was separated from them for ever. Consumption had become firmly fixed on a constitution predisposed to weakness from the first. It was in this state, and from his father's cottage, he wrote his "Elegy," with the full consciousness that the grave was not far distant, which is clearly indicated in the course of the poem :—

> "Now Spring returns, but not to me returns
> The vernal joy my better years have known ;
> Dim in my breast life's dying taper burns,
> And all the joys of life with health are flown.
>
> . . . . . .
>
> Farewell ye blooming fields, ye cheerful plains,
> Enough for me the churchyard's lonely mound,
> Where Melancholy with still silence reigns,
> And the rank grass waves o'er the cheerless ground."

The "Elegy" is perhaps Bruce's finest poem, though we get a strong echo of Blair's grave in its doleful strains; but his circumstances offer more justification for such strains than did Blair's circumstances. In claiming foremost place for the "Elegy" among Bruce's poems, an exception should be made with respect to the "Cuckoo," the authorship of which has so long been a subject of dispute. It was first included among Bruce's poems, published in 1770, by his college friend John Logan, and afterwards included among Logan's own poems, published in 1781. One of the principal claims given in favour of Logan's authorship is, that the "Cuckoo" is superior to any of Bruce's other poems, and that Logan lived to create a higher literary reputation than could be claimed for his dead friend. It should be remembered at the same time that Logan had a longer lease of life and experience of the world in which to mature his talents, and it proves nothing respecting the merit of the "Cuckoo," for when he first published it he was about the age when Bruce died; therefore, in point of age and experience no additional advantages can be claimed for Logan.

In Dr M'Kelvie's edition of Bruce's poems, published in 1837, and that of Dr A. B. Grosard, published in 1865-86, valuable evidence is given in favour of Bruce's authorship, and it would be difficult to minimise the trustworthiness of either of the two editors, the latter of whom was so steadfast in the belief of Bruce's claim that during the twenty years which intervened between the issue of the two editions, and with his vast antiquarian research, Grosard still maintained Bruce's claim to the authorship of the "Cuckoo." On the other hand the claim of Logan to the authorship of the ode has been maintained with equal conscientiousness by David Laing and Dr Small, but at this time of day demonstrative proof is well-nigh impossible. Let it be borne in mind that Logan was not very scrupulous in several instances in appropriating matter belonging to others, but it should also be borne in mind that literary matter was regarded more as common property in the eighteenth century than it is in the twentieth century. The principal productions which may be

assigned to Bruce without question are "Alexis," a pastoral; "Lochleven no More," a descriptive poem in blank verse; his "Elegy," written in spring; "A Rhymed Fable," "A Historical Ballad on Sir James the Ross," and "The Last Day." These are exclusive of Scripture paraphrases printed as the work of Logan, including the "Complaint of Nature," which was said to have been composed by Michael Bruce for Buchan's psalmody class in Kinnesswood, in 1764, and printed by Logan as his own production in 1781.* When the youth of our author is taken into consideration, there is no reason to expect that he should startle the world by the production of verses with new ideas or novel images. Like most young authors who have not gained full confidence in their own judgment and their own powers, Bruce took several of his predecessors as his models, such as Blair, Thomson, and Ossian, especially Ossian's poems, which were greatly in vogue in Bruce's day. In his description of the ruins of Lochleven Castle, for example, it is evident that he had recourse to Macpherson's description of Balclutha's towers in Ossian's "Carthon." Although originality cannot be claimed for Bruce in the strictest sense, he cannot be accused of slavish imitation, and he is entitled to the same qualification that has been allowed to John Logan. If the life of Bruce had not been cut off at the early age of twenty-one, it is fair to assume that he would have held a more commanding position than he does in the literature of his country.

John Logan, 1748-1788.

John Logan played so conspicuous a part in connection with the literary remains of Michael Bruce, that he may appropriately be dealt with in immediate succession. The charge of appropriating some of the poetical work of his dead friend has done his character in men's eyes much wrong and prevented him obtaining the justice his talents deserve. The writings of John Logan have many qualities which entitle him to an important place among men of talent, if not genius, and he is included by Isaac D'Israeli, in his *Calamities of Authors*, among unfortunate men of genius. In his sympathetic notice, D'Israeli states that Logan died of a broken heart, but it is well to remember at this point that

* *Scottish Poetry of Eighteenth Century*, Vol. II., p. 74.

D'Israeli was fond of dramatic situations, not with the desire of exaggerating the picture out of all due proportions, but rather to emphasize its points by creating a nimbus round the devoted heads of his brethren in the craft for the purpose of arresting the public eye. Like many another author before and since his day, it is true, Logan's dreams of ambition were scattered by the rude hand of Fate, and he was left to sigh over the desolate prospect; but there is little or no evidence to support the idea that he died of a broken heart. Logan was born at Soutra, East Lothian, in 1748, and was the son of a small farmer who belonged to the religious sect called Burghers. He was sent to the University of Edinburgh with the view of becoming a minister in that body, but his ideas of Conformity changed, and he was ordained in the Church of Scotland. At the time he was pursuing his own studies he was appointed to superintend those of John Sinclair, afterwards Sir John Sinclair, well-known for his numerous writings on agriculture, and his *Statistical Account of Scotland*, which was published in 21 volumes. In 1770 Logan edited and published the poetical remains of Michael Bruce, who had been a fellow-student, and in the capacity of literary executor he has been accused of deviating from the line of honest executorship, by including some of his own poems among those of his dead friend. In any case they were afterwards claimed by him as his own, leading to a dispute which cannot be settled satisfactorily even now. Having completed the usual term of study Logan was appointed to the pastoral charge of South Leith in 1773, and soon became popular as a preacher. Some time after his appointment to South Leith, a special committee was selected by the General Assembly for the purpose of revising the Psalmody of the Church, and Logan was elected one of the members owing to his fine poetical tastes. In 1781 the collection of *Translations and Paraphrases* was published, containing several of Logan's compositions, which, though not among his best productions in verse, possesses a good deal of merit, especially in the harmony of their numbers. His duties at South Leith were such as to allow him sufficient leisure to indulge his taste for literature, which was stimulated by the

achievements of such men as Principal Robertson, Professor Ferguson, Dr Hugh Blair, and Adam Smith, all of whom were still in the flesh, and Logan was on friendly terms with most of them. Indeed, it was under their auspices that he gave a course of lectures in Edinburgh, the outlines of which he published in 1781 as *The Elements of the Philosophy of History*, and in the following year he published in one volume a collection of his poems which greatly increased his reputation, amongst which "The Cuckoo" was included, also "The Complaint of Nature," which is assigned to Michael Bruce. Apart from other testimony, the internal evidence appears to favour the authorship of Bruce. So great was the demand that in a short time a second edition of Logan's poems was called for, which encouraged him to greater exertions. The celebrated Edmund Burke was one of those who greatly admired his poems, especially "The Cuckoo," and when he visited Edinburgh he called upon Logan so that he might compliment him personally, probably little thinking at the time that this same young man was destined to be the most pungent critic of the articles he prepared for the House of Commons in connection with the well-known Impeachment of Warren Hastings. In 1783, Logan published a lecture on "The Manners and Government of Asia;" also "Runnamede: A Tragedy," on the signing of Magna Charta, which was accepted and put in rehearsal at Covent Garden Theatre, but when the necessary licence was applied for to the Lord Chamberlain it was refused on account of its political references. Undaunted, Logan was determined it should be staged, and it was afterwards acted at Edinburgh, but it did not meet with the success it deserved, for it was by no means an inferior production; but the Scottish people had a strong prejudice against theatrical representation, and the same spirit which persecuted Allan Ramsay for building a theatre and drove John Home from the Church because he wrote the tragedy of "Douglas," still reigned rampant. Logan, it is true, was not subject to the same aggressive measures, but the mere fact of his tragedy being acted in a theatre created a suspicion in the minds of his congregation that he was unorthodox and insincere. At all events

his parishioners disapproved of this exercise of his talents, and a proposition to vacate his Church was formally made, and in 1786 he resigned his charge on receiving a small annuity, and settled in London, where he died. In his "Ode to a Man of Letters" our author conveys some idea of the lofty conception he had of the vocation of a great author when he wrote :—

> "No tame remission genius knows,
> No interval of dark repose
> To quench the eternal flame ;
> From Thebes to Troy, the victor hies
> In varied paths to fame."

After Logan settled in London he devoted himself assiduously to literature, having had from his early youth the disposition of a poetic spirit which now had become full-fledged. His first occupation in the metropolis was that of a journalist, and as his articles bore the stamp of genius he soon became a regular contributor to the *English Review*. In 1788, the year in which he died, he wrote a review of the principal charges against Warren Hastings. Although the *Impeachment* was laid in the House of Commons, the articles were not confined to the Commons until they were sent to the Lords for trial as was the custom, but were printed and sold in all the shops in the country without question or obstruction, which, to say the least, was prejudicial to the case of the accused. With the view of counteracting this influence, Logan wrote a review of the *Articles of Impeachment*, which was published in a small volume by Stockdale, a bookseller in Piccadilly. In submitting these articles to a critical test, it should be borne in mind that our author had to wrestle with the forensic skill of Burke and of Sheridan, who prepared the *Articles of Impeachment* for the House of Commons. It was on the motion of Fox that the House unanimously voted an address to the King praying His Majesty to direct his Attorney-General to file an Information against John Stockdale as the publisher of a libel upon the Commons House of Parliament, which was accordingly done. The Hon. Thomas Erskine was counsel for the defendant in the case of the King v. Stockdale, and in one of his many famous speeches

where the liberty of the Press was endangered, he persuaded the jury to find a verdict of "Not Guilty" for Stockdale.* The author of the *Review* did not live to witness the triumph of his publisher, as the action was taken in the Court of King's Bench nearly a year after Logan's death. A year before he died he published *A Dissertation on the Governments, Manners, and Spirit of Asia*, which appeared anonymously, and it is stated by Isaac D'Israeli that if the name of Gibbon had been affixed to the title-page its authenticity would not have been suspected. Among the MSS. he left when he died were two volumes of Sermons, which unmistakably testify to his gift of eloquence and religious sincerity; also the unpublished part of his lectures on History, which were afterwards published by Dr Wm. Rutherford under the title of *A View of Ancient History*, and claimed as his own, being, as is supposed, deposited with him as security for a small loan. Apart from the disputed "Cuckoo," which has been estimated as one of the finest poems in our language, Logan's best efforts are "A Visit to the Country in Autumn," "The Lovers: A Half-Tragedy," and "The Braes of Yarrow," which, irrespective of his other productions, entitle him to rank high among the literary men of either England or Scotland even in that prolific eighteenth century. At this time London was still the Mecca which attracted the young Scots pilgrim, who either had, or thought he had, the literary temperament, and many are the tales of disappointment and woe revealed in the story of such pilgrims.

Andrew Macdonald, 1755-1790.

The story of Matthew Bramble, or rather Andrew Macdonald, is one of the most striking instances of dissipated hopes and scattered illusions as an illustration of this fact. Andrew Donald, who subsequently prefixed "Mac" to his surname, was the son of George Donald, a gardener, near Leith, and was born 1755. He was first sent to the Grammar School at Leith, where he received the rudiments of his education, and afterwards studied at the University of Edinburgh with the view of becoming a minister in the Episcopal Church. In 1775 he was ordained by the bishop,

* See *Speeches of the Hon. Thomas Erskine*, Vol. II. 1813.

assuming the name of Macdonald, as pastor of the Episcopal Church in Glasgow, where he had ample leisure to indulge his tastes for music and poetry. He had not only a knowledge of musical composition and the theory of music, but he could play the violin with taste and skill, and was one of the founders of a musical club in Glasgow, of which he became one of the directors. As an author he was not known to the public till 1782, when he published a poetical fragment in imitation of Spenser, entitled "Velina." Strange though it may seem, Episcopacy in Glasgow never had been a flourishing cause since the Reformation, and Macdonald's stipend, which merely consisted of the pew-rents, gradually became a diminishing quantity. With the laudable ambition of making better provision for his wife and family he strove to increase his income by the exercise of his pen, and while in Glasgow he wrote a novel called the *Independent*. Convinced that success as an author would be more difficult of realisation while he remained pastor of the Episcopal Church he resigned his charge at Glasgow, at the same time relinquishing his ecclasiastical functions altogether, and removed to Edinburgh with no other prospects save those of a literary adventurer. While in Edinburgh he wrote *Vimonda*, a tragedy, which was acted for the benefit of one of the players; but he did not meet with the encouragement as an author he anticipated, and he resolved to make a pilgrimage to London with the view of trying his fortune, walking all the way from Edinburgh with the novel of the *Independent* in the one pocket and *Vimonda* in the other. For some time after he settled there he amused the public every morning with a series of humorous or burlesque poems under the assumed name of Matthew Bramble, "and at this very time," says Isaac D'Israeli, "he was one of the most moving spectacles of human melancholy I ever witnessed. It was one evening I saw a tall, famished, melancholy man enter a bookseller's shop, his hat flapped over his eyes and his whole frame evidently feeble from exhaustion and utter misery. The bookseller enquired how he proceeded with his tragedy. 'Do not talk to me about my tragedy! I have, indeed, more tragedy than

I can bear at home,' was the reply, and his voice faltered as he spoke. This man was Matthew Bramble, or rather Macdonald, the author of the tragedy of *Vimonda* at that time the writer of comic poetry." It is obvious that the tragedy he referred to was a wife in ill health and children crying for bread, but the great stream of London life which passed to and fro, many of whom he had doubtless moved to laughter heard not their cry, or saw not their tears. Soon after our author's death a collection of his miscellaneous Works was published, and, in addition to *Vimonda*, were included "The Fair Apostle," a tragedy; "Love and Loyalty," an opera; "The Prince of Tarinto," a comedy; "The Probationary Odes," under the *nom de plume* of Matthew Bramble, which sparkle with wit and humour. Taken as a whole his works show him to have been an author of much versatility of genius. "Velina," perhaps, exhibits his elegant diction and richness of fancy to a greater extent than anything else he has written, and will favourably compare with Spenser, whom he imitated. It has been remarked that the difference between the Englishman and the Scot is that the Englishman begins life as an optimist and ends by becoming a pessimist, whilst the Scot begins a pessimist and ends by becoming an optimist. If this is so in reality, an exception must be made in the case of this fitful genius. Macdonald began life in the most complacent optimism, which he consecrated by music and song, but he ended by hanging his harp on the willow tree, feeling out of harmony with all the world, and died with the conviction that the path of life was strewn with thorns and briers and many bitter herbs.

James Mercer, 1734-1803.

In James Mercer we have a poet who was not lured to his own undoing by dreams of literary fame like the less fortunate Andrew Macdonald, but rather seemed afraid that even his most intimate friends should know that he was guilty of the sin of rhyming. This feeling was probably induced by the knowledge of his own limitations which his wide reading and accomplished scholarship tended to emphasize. James Mercer was the eldest son of Thomas Mercer, a gentleman of fortune in Aberdeenshire, who

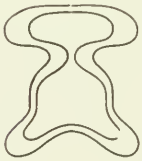
took up arms in the Rebellion of 1745 on behalf of the Pretender, and in consequence had to seek refuge in France. His eldest son James received an efficient education, first in the Grammar School and afterwards at Marischal College, Aberdeen, but manifested no desire to enter any of the learned professions. After leaving college he joined his father in Paris, remaining there for seven years, where he had the advantage of associating with the best society of the French metropolis in literature and politics. His chief inclination was to enter the military profession, and at the commencement of the Seven Years War he returned to Britain, resolved to take up arms in his country's cause. On his arrival in England active preparations were being made for the expedition against Cherbourg, and he immediately joined it as a Volunteer, and was compelled to witness the ill-starred attack completely repulsed from the Bay of St. Cas. After the failure of the expedition Mercer joined the British Army in Germany, then under the command of Lord George Sackville, still as a volunteer. He, however, soon obtained a commission as ensign in one of the English regiments, serving with the combined army, subsequently gaining promotion as a lieutenant in a battalion of Highlanders, newly organised by Lieutenant-Colonel Campbell. For several years he remained on the Continent, and at much personal risk shared in the glories of many brilliant victories by the allied army; the most celebrated of which was the Battle of Minden, the details of which he frequently narrated to his friends with much feeling. His Continental experience gave him a knowledge of French and other languages, the former of which he could speak perfectly, and his acquaintance with French authors, especially military and classical, was a subject of astonishment among Frenchmen themselves. In 1763, when close on thirty years of age, he married Miss Douglas, a lady of great personal attraction and of distinguished ancestry which could be traced in a direct line to Gavin Douglas, bishop of Dunkeld, the first to translate Virgil's *Aeneid* into English. After his marriage, Mercer removed with his regiment to Ireland, where he remained

for about nine years, when he concluded a treaty with Sir Henry Calder, the lieutenant-colonel, with the view of becoming his successor. The treaty was confirmed in the usual manner by the Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland, but by some underhand practice the commission which belonged to Mercer by the recognised principles of equity was given to another, which so disgusted him that he sold out the ordinary commission he held in the army, and with his wife and two daughters returned to a small cottage near Aberdeen. In 1774 he went to the South of France for the benefit of his wife's health, who had been a confirmed invalid for some time, where he remained for two years, after which he returned to Scotland to end his days in a pleasant villa near Aberdeen named Sunny Bank. On the death of his brother, who was a bachelor, he acceded to his fortune, which enabled him to build this pleasant villa. Owing to the continued ill health of his wife, he lived the life of a recluse at Sunny Bank, dividing his time between his books and attendance upon her. To those who had the chance of cultivating his acquaintance, he was greatly esteemed for his culture and refinement, and Beattie, the poet, in a letter to the Duchess of Gordon, speaks of him in the following terms :—"Major Mercer, with more learning than any other man of my acquaintance, has all the playfulness of a schoolboy, and writes with the wit and wisdom of Montesquieu, the sensibility of Rousseau, and the generosity of Tom Jones." Correctly speaking, Mercer was greater as a personality than as a poet, and he appears to have carefully separated his personality from his poetry which is polished and classical to an unnecessary degree, considering the themes of which he treats, which are scarcely worthy of such high and serious literary handling. Although mostly lyrical, there are few gems among his verse that sparkle, but all diffuse uniform luminosity, which, if not entirely monotonous altogether, seldom elevate the thoughts and feelings of the reader above a dead-level which palls upon the imagination. The biographer of Cowper, William Hayley, on hearing that Mercer had sunk under his grief

for the loss of his wife, to whom he was evidently much attached, wrote an appropriate epitaph, from which the following lines are taken :—

> " Around this grave, ye types of merit spread ;
> Here Mercer shares the Sabbath of the dead !
> Ye laurels, here with double lustre bloom,
> To deck a soldier's and a poet's tomb ;
> Gracefully pleasing in each manly part,
> His verses, like his virtues, win the heart."

WM. M'ILWRAITH.



THE SCOTS VERNACULAR.

IT is appropriate that members of Burns clubs should have their attention directed to the history and the development of the vernacular in which Burns literature finds expression, were it only to remove some common misconceptions as to the origin and character of the Scots language.

At the outset it is to be observed that the word "Scot" had originally a meaning very different from what it now has, for it referred to a race that spoke a language further removed from the language of Burns than English is from Sanscrit. The original Scots were a Celtic, not a Teutonic, race. They were a branch of the Celtic race that, at a period far beyond authentic history, settled in Ireland, a country which during the sixth and seventh centuries was generally, in the Latin chronicles of the time, referred to as *Insula Scotorum*. Bede, in his *Ecclesiastical History*, written in the beginning of the eighth century, says, "Ireland is the County of the Scots who, migrating from thence, added a third nation to the Picts and the Britains. There is a large gulf of the sea which formerly divided the nation of the Picts from the Britains, which gulf runs east very far into the land, where to this day stands the strong city of the Britains called Alcuith (Dumbarton). The Scots arriving on the north side of the bay settled themselves there."

The Scots who thus settled on the northern banks of the Clyde gradually supplanted their Pictish neighbours, and in the middle of the ninth century their ruler established himself as King over the Picts, although he still retained the designation of the King of the Scots. As the power of the Picts diminished and that of the Scots increased, the term "*Scot*" came to be applied to the inhabitants of the land over which the Scots King ruled—that is, the part of Britain north of the Forth and the

Clyde. It was not till a much later period that the name "Scotland" came to be applied to any part of the territory south of the Forth. That was a part of the Northumbrian kingdom which stretched from the Humber to the Forth and was inhabited, not by a Celtic race, but by an Angle or English people, in no way akin to the Scots of the north. In fact there is abundance of evidence to prove that the Lothians were not considered a part of Scotland at this time. In the *Anglo-Saxon Chronicle*, under the year 1091, we read that Malcolm, the King of the Scots, marched "Out of Scotland into Lothian in *England*." This statement comes from an English source; but we need not go beyond the Acts of the Scots Parliament themselves to find it amply confirmed. In these, Stirling is spoken of as a border town, the territory south of the Forth being treated as beyond the limits of Scotland.

It was the Danish invasions of the ninth and tenth centuries which, more than anything else, led to the expansion of the dominion of the Scots King towards the south. It is difficult to trace the course of events in this period, for the Scots seem at one time to have sided with the Danes, and at another with the Saxons of the south. The ultimate result, however, was that, about the close of the tenth century, that part of Cumbria lying between the Firth of Solway and the Firth of Clyde, and that part of Northumbria lying between the Cheviots and the Firth of Forth, were ceded to the King of the Scots. Whether he held them in trust simply as a fief of the English Crown, or whether he acquired them in absolute dominion need not concern us. The acquisition of these territories became one of the most important factors in the development of the Scottish nationality, and is of the first importance to the student of the Scots vernacular.

During this period we see a struggle going on between two dynasties, representing distinct races, languages, and sympathies. In Macbeth we have the Celtic king who, after the death of Duncan, ruled over what was then known as Scotland, while in Malcolm Canmore, the son of Duncan, we have the representative

of the Angle or English sympathies. Partly of Saxon descent Malcolm was wholly Saxon in tastes, and when he overthrew Macbeth, although he came to win the ancient Scots throne of his fathers, he came rather as a Lothian king to conquer a foreign country. In him we have the turning point at which the ruling family ceased to be Celtic and became Anglo-Saxon. From his reign onward the centre of influence is gradually transferred from the north to the Lothians in the south. The restoration of the ancient Celtic dynasty in Malcolm's person was really a Saxon movement effected by Saxon aid, and from his reign onward the southern civilisation, as it existed in Lothian and Tweedale, became dominant in Scotland. As Dr Murray says in his treatise on *The Dialect of the Southern Counties of Scotland*: "The sovereign ruled as the hereditary descendant of Fergus the son of Erc and the fabulous Gathelus; he reigned *because* he represented the feelings and sympathies and was identified with the interests and national spirit of his Anglo-Saxon subjects." Still the term "Scotland" continued to be applied exclusively to the land north of the Forth, and the word "Scot" to indicate a man of the Northern Celtic race. King David, whose charters are, with the exception of one of the reign of Malcolm, the oldest we have, describes himself in these charters as King of the Scots, but he addresses them to his subjects in Scotland, Lothian, and Galloway. A change in the application of the term "Scotland" was, however, in progress, and the War of Independence at last extended it to the whole territory now designated by that name, although the word "Scot" continued for nearly two centuries longer to mean a Celt.

It is with the language of the southern element, which, although its headquarters were in the Scottish lowlands, had penetrated far north beyond the Forth, and which represented in an ever-increasing degree the dominant element in the kingdom, that we have to deal, for it is from this source that the Scots vernacular arose. How this language came to be universal all over Scotland, except in the extensive but remoter and thinly populated regions where the Celtic survived, is one of those philo-

logical puzzles which has never been satisfactorily answered. The influence of Malcolm's Court could only have reached a small circle of his subjects, and the influx of Saxons from the south could never have materially affected the speech of the people, for the great body of the people will always be disposed to retain the speech they have derived from their parents. After the Norman Conquest, for example, when French became the language of the Court and the law in England, and when Norman Barons were planted in every corner of England, French was unable to supersede the English language. Many French words, it is true, were ingrafted on the English, but the language remained essentially Anglo-Saxon. Why the language of the Picts was not able to withstand the Anglo-Saxon infusion, as the English had withstood the French, is possibly explained by the theory that the Picts were a Scandinavian race speaking a language closely akin to the Saxon and easily assimilated with it.

Early English comprised three distinct dialects, each with well-marked characteristics—the northern, the midland, and the southern. Of these the midland gradually gained an ascendancy over and absorbed the other two. Southern English died out or survived only as a local patois on the shores of the English Channel. Northern English, at least as a literary language, was also supplanted in Northumbria south of the Cheviots, but it lived on as the vernacular of Scotland, and, with certain modifications, became the written language of the golden days of Scots literature. In fact "Early Scots," if we take the expression as signifying the language written up to the end of the fourteenth century in the southern counties of Scotland, is identical with the examples of northern English which we find in the writings of those who wrote at York or on the banks of the Humber. Thus it is that the language of Barbour in *The Bruce* and Wyntoun in his *Rhyming Chronicle*, both early Scots poets, is identical with the northern English of such a writer as Richard Rolle of Doncaster. Dr Murray tells us that he has frequently been amused on reading passages from Richard Rolle to men of education, both English and Scots, and finding that they pronounce them to be old Scots,

and that their surprise has been great to be told that the author lived in the extreme south of Yorkshire, within a few miles from a locality so thoroughly English as Sherwood Forest, with its memories of Robin Hood.

During the century preceding and the century following Bannockburn, there were a number of causes in operation which, although they did not alter the essentially Anglo-Saxon character of the language, led to a divergence of the Scots vernacular from the literary English of the time, and made it a distinct language with special characteristics of its own. But it was not till the close of the fifteenth century that the language assumed those features which it retained during the brilliant period of Scottish literature, the period of Dunbar, Douglas, and Lindesay.

Among these causes the first to be noted is that many of the peculiar features of the northern English, as distinguished from the literary English of the time, survived in the Scots vernacular. This is found in the vocabulary and also in grammatical form and construction, and is one of the important sources of that part of the language which we regard as peculiarly Scots. Every Englishman who reads Burns meets with many words which are to him unintelligible, and grammatical forms with which he is not familiar. These words and forms of expression, although only on a very small percentage of the vocabulary of even the most distinctively Scots poems of Burns, form really, apart from the mere matter of pronunciation, the characteristic elements of the Scots vernacular. They are almost entirely of Teutonic origin, from the same source as the English. Although not now found in literary English, they remained in the northern English dialect, and survive to this day in the dialects of Scotland. They are Anglo-Saxon words and have their counterpart in other Teutonic languages of our own time. Anyone who reads the translations of Burns's poetry into German, and they are very numerous, must be struck with the number of Scots words which have their exact counterpart in the German. Thus we have the word "wale," to choose, which is the German "wählen"; the word "lift," the air, which is the German "Luft"; the word "blate," bashful, which

is the German "blöde"; and many others. But besides such words as these of Teutonic origin, which do not appear to have been used in English, we have many words which were in common use in the time of Chaucer and other early English writers, and which have long ago died out of the English language but remain alive in the Scots. A glossary of the words in Chaucer which require to be explained to a modern Englishman contains about six thousand words, of which as many as two thousand do not require any explanation to a Scotsman familiar with the vernacular of his own country. For example, Burns uses the word "ferlie," meaning "to wonder." "To ferlie at the folks in Lun'on." Chaucer uses it as an adjective, meaning "strange." It occurs in *Piers Ploughman* as a noun meaning "a wonder." The word is still common in the Buchan dialect, in which the "sights" of a town are called its "ferlies," which is the same meaning as the word has in the proverb given in Allan Ramsay's *Scots Proverbs*: "The longer we live the more ferlies we see." Again, we have the word "tine," meaning to "lose," with its past participle "tint." The word is an old English one, used by Chaucer and the author of *Piers Ploughman*, but has not been used in English for centuries. As a last example we may take the word "kythe," meaning "to show," "to prove." It is often found in the Scots Makars. Gavin Douglas speaks of the sun "kything no sygn of heyt in his wisage." In early English it was in common use, and we find it as late as the metrical version of the Psalms appended to our Bible, where, in the 18th Psalm, "Unto the froward Thou showest Thyself froward," is rendered "Froward Thou kyth'st unto the froward wight." I am not aware of any later example of its use in English, and probably it was already archaic when Francis Rouse wrote his metrical version of the Psalms. The word, however, like the others just mentioned, survives in Scotland and is used by Burns in *Hallowe'en*, where we find,

> "Their faces blythe, fu' sweetly kythe,
> Hearts leal, and true and kin'."

While many old Anglo-Saxon words were retained in Scot-

land which were being lost in England, a further divergence between the two languages arose from the fact that the Romance influence, which followed as a result of the Norman conquest and affected in a marked degree the language of England, did not affect the language of Scotland to anything like the same extent. The consequence is that the language spoken north of the Tweed in the time of Barbour is purer Saxon than the English of the same period, and the student of English literature, whether he knows Scots or not, finds it easier to understand Barbour's *Bruce* than Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales*, written almost at the same time.

The Scots language was not, however, without its French influence, although it came at a later date. One of the results of the war of Scots independence was to drive the Norman French barons, who had established themselves in Scotland, out of the country, while it, at the same time, united Scotland and France in the closest friendship, and established what Sir David Lindesay calls that

> "Weill keipit ancient alliance
> Maid betwixt Scotland and the realme of France."

This ancient League against their "auld enemy" was the great safeguard against English aggression, and had far-reaching social and political results during the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries, leaving traces in almost every department of national life. Scots scholars flocked to Paris, and when the Universities came to be founded in Scotland they were formed on the French model. The lawyers studied civil law at the French Universities, and to the present day the mass of the common law of our country is founded on the great code of Justinian to which they had been introduced in the French law schools. Even a thing so distinctively Scots as the Presbyterian system of the Reformed Church came from the Catholic country of France, and was drawn up under the influence, if not under the supervision, of Calvin.

Such an intimate connection between the two countries could not fail to have an effect on the language, and while the tendency now is to consider this effect as much exaggerated and

to trace much of what has been attributed to it to a Norman French origin, and still more to a Latin origin, there still remains much in the language of the sixteenth century that undoubtedly can only be explained by this French influence. In fact we find in all the poets, and in the prose writers too, a kind of French mannerism manifesting itself in French words and in forms of expression based on French models, wholly contrary to the usage of the earlier Scots writers. But, for the most part, these peculiarities are exotic, and never became properly assimilated with the native element in the language, and it is remarkable how little permanent effect they had on the language. This influence reached its height in the sixteenth century in the writings of the great Makars, but the Scots language had almost ceased to be wedded to a living literature before the Union of the Crowns, and never having reached the heart of the language, it left little trace on the later dialect. The language, however, was enriched by a few expressive words such as "dour," "douce," "corbie" for a crow, "houlette" for an owl, "fashed" for troubled, and such Scots legal terms as "spulzie" and "assoilzie." Nor must we omit two words which are always given as the stock examples, "ashet" and "gigot," for these are words not found in our English dictionaries, but are in every-day use in every household in Scotland, even in those where the use of a Scots expression would be looked on as vulgar.

Closely allied to this French influence in the Scots language was the influence of Latin. To the Scots student Latin was not a dead language. It was the language in which his studies were carried on, in which his learned treatises were written, in which his professors addressed their students, and a great part of his conversation was conducted in Latin, and it is said that he even thought in Latin. One Scots writer, John of Ireland, apologises for the rudeness of his style, and explains that he was more at home with Latin. The effect of this intimate knowledge and familiar use of Latin is very apparent in the literary language, even more so than the influence of French, although it does not appear to have affected the spoken language of the uneducated to any material extent. Like the French, it was exotic, and however

much it affected the diction of the sixteenth century writers, it left little permanent mark on the language. We have some idea of the extent to which Latin coloured the written language of that time if we read Dunbar's *Ave Maria*. The first verse is :—

Hale sterne superne, Hale, in eterne,
  In God's sicht to shyne !
Lucerne in derne, for to discerne,
  Be glory and grace devyne ;
Hodiern, modern, sempitern,
  Angelicall regyne,
Our terne inferne for to dispern
  Helpe rialest Rosyne !
Ave Maria, gracia plena !
  Haile fresche flour femynyne,
Yerne us guberne, virgin matern,
  Of reuth baith rute and ryne.

One can hardly say whether the basis of the language is Latin or Scots. Of course that is an exaggerated example, but it shows what is found, in a lesser degree, in all the Scots writing of the period. This foreign mannerism also asserts itself in the prose writers, although perhaps hardly to the same extent. Here is the last sentence of the author's prologue to the *Complaynt of Scotland* :—"Now for conclusion of this prolog, I exort the, gude redar, to correct me familiarly ande be charite, and til interpreit my intentione favorablye, for doubtles the motione of the compilatione of this tracteit procedis mair of the compassione that I hef of the public necessite nor it dois of presumptione or vane gloir. Thy cheretabil correctione may be ane provocatione to gar me studye mair attentivlye in the nyxt werkis that I intend to set furtht, the quhilk I beliefe in God sal be verray necessair til al them that desiris to lyve verteouslye indurand the schort tyme of this our fragil peregrinatione."

There we have words such as intention, compassion, provocation, correction, fragil, peregrination, familiarly, proceeds, and others, which are not true Scots, but Latin words appropriated into the language, some of them in a French dress.

We find a similar process going on in our own time in German ; but with this difference, that it is more apparent in the

spoken language than in the written. Numerous French and English words have been germanised and adopted into the German language, even where there is an appropriate native word at hand. We have "arrangiren," to arrange; "interessiren," to interest; "corrigiren," to correct; "amusiren," to amuse; and many others. The use of such words is now, however, being more and more discouraged, with the result that, while they are still in common use in the spoken language, they are not looked on with favour and are not often found in literature except where the style is designedly colloquial.

The connection of the people of Scotland with the Celts of the North also left its mark on the language of the people, and there are Scots words which can be traced to a Celtic source, but it is now generally accepted that the number of these is small, and that Celtic has only to a trifling extent permanently affected the language.

To those influences which have been mentioned as creating in Scotland a distinct language with characteristics of its own, distinguishing it from its sister language in England, we may add the patriotic spirit engendered by the war of independence, and the growth of the sentiment of Scots nationality, and we have the chief factors in the development of the Scots vernacular up to the time of the Reformation.

But, distinct and national as this language was, we must not lose sight of the fact that it was a development of an English dialect, and was, by the writers themselves, spoken of as English. Wyntoun, in his *Rhyming Chronicle* (about 1420), calls his language Ynglis. Blind Harry (about 1460) describes one of Wallace's French friends as being such a fine fellow that he might have passed for a Scot, had he been able to speak English:

> "Likely he was, manlike of Countenance
> Like to the Scottis be mekill governance
> Sauf if his tong, for Inglis had he none."

Barbour, too, who lived about the same time, writes in what he himself calls "The Inglis tong." In fact, if any of these writers had used the word "Scots" it would have meant what we

call "Gaelic." When we come to the writers of the sixteenth century we find the same term applied. Gavin Douglas seems to have been the first poet to call his language Scots. In the prologue to his translation of the *Aeneid* he says his object is to give Virgil in the language of the "Scots" nation, but it is to be noted that the reason he gives for his having undertaken the task is the untrustworthy nature of Caxton's English translation, which, he says, is no more like Virgil than the Devil is like St. Augustine. Even the anonymous author of the *Complaint of Scotland*, although he makes it a special appropriation of his own good parts that he has not "fardit and lardit his treatise with exquisite terms not in daily use," and has avoided "lang-taillit wordis half ane myle in length," and confined himself to "domestic Scottis language maist intelligible for the vulgar pepil," even he has to admit the English character of the language of the people. In one of his virulent attacks on the English he says, "There is nocht twa nations under the firmament that are mair contrar and different fra utheris nor is Inglismen or Scottismen, howbeit they are within ane ile and nychbours and *of ane language*."

It is remarkable that these last two writers, Gavin Douglas and the author of the *Complaint of Scotland*, both of whom call their language Scots, feel constrained to lament the poverty of their language, and to apologise for the introduction of many expressions derived from the Latin, on account of the impossibility of expressing their meaning without such foreign aid. But the most striking evidence that we have that the language of Scotland was looked upon as English is to be found in an Act of the Scots Parliament itself. In 1551 the fifth Parliament of Queen Mary, in view of the inconveniences arising from the practice of unlicensed printing, and "the defamation and slander of the lieges of the realm" to which it gave rise, ordained "that na prenter presume attempt or take upon hande to prent ony buikes, ballats, sanges, blasphemations, rimes or tragedies, outher in Latin *or English toung*, in ony times to cum, unto the time the samin be seene viewed and examined be some wise and discreit persons, depute thereto be the ordinares quhatsumever, etc." James Sixth, how-

ever, is more patriotic, and gives as one of his reasons for writing on the "Art of Poesie," when so many others had already written on the subject, "That as for thame that has written of it of late there hes never ane of thame written in our language. For albeit sindrie has written of it in English, quhilk is lykest to our language, yet we differ from thame in sindrie reulis of Poesie, as ye will find be experience." He is, however, not very loyal to his own native Scots, for, when he wrote his famous *Counterblast to Tobacco*, after his accession to the throne of England, his language conformed much more to that of his new kingdom.

But whatever we may call the language of the Scots literature of the sixteenth century, whether we call it English or Scots, it cannot be spoken of as merely a dialect. It was the language of a nation with a strong sense of national independence and national life; it was a language with an extensive and valuable literature of its own; it was a language quite distinct from the kindred language of the southern part of this island, flowing, it is true, from the same source, but in a separate channel; it was the language spoken over the greater part of Scotland by high and low, rich and poor, by statesman and lawyer, by soldier and priest, by merchant and peasant. It was the language spoken in the palace, the law court, the pulpit, the market place, the street and the field. As Hugh Halliburton recently illustrated it:—"I mak' sickar," said the knight; It cam' wi' a lass and it will gang wi' a lass," said the king; "Better bairns greet than beardit men," said the stern reformer.

It must be a matter of regret that a distinctively Scots literature should have ceased just at the very time when it had reached its highest achievements. At a time when there was little of permanent literary value being produced in England, there was being produced in Scotland an undying literature of the greatest worth, but the Reformation which ushered in the glorious Elizabethan period of English literature sounded the death-knell of the vernacular literature in Scotland. The consciousness of a great national destiny, the intensity of national life, the awakening of the people to freedom of thought which arose at the time of the Reformation

in England, infused life and fervour into literature in all its branches in that country. Life to the Englishman was a joyous thing, but the cold Calvinism which the Reformation fostered in Scotland discouraged art as frivolous, and discountenanced as sinful all literature that was not distinctly religious in its character. The consequence was that, from the time of the Reformation, we have no longer a national literature in Scotland, and although there was a brilliant revival, beginning with Allan Ramsay and reaching its full glory in Burns, the language revived, not as a national tongue, but rather as a provincial dialect, admitted only to literary use for certain specific purposes. The Reformation proved disastrous not only to Scots literature, but also to the Scots vernacular. It assimilated the language more and more to English. The old connection with France came to an end. It was to England that the adherents of the reformed faith looked. Latin, which now seemed to smack of Popery, ceased to be the medium in which the ambitious Scot sought a wider audience than his own countrymen could furnish, and, when he had anything of value to say, he had recourse to English, with the result that his native Scots became affected by the English model.

There was no native translation of the Bible in general use in Scotland, for the recently-discovered Scots version, of which only one manuscript, probably written about 1520, is extant, cannot have been known beyond a very limited area. The Bibles that were in general use in Scotland were all English versions. The first edition of the Bible printed in Scotland was published in 1579, and was a verbatim copy of the Geneva version, commonly called "the Breeches Bible." The publication was regarded as a great national work, and the cost of it was met by a contribution levied on every parish in the land. Yet it is pure English, even the spelling of the original English being retained. This is the Bible which is referred to in the Act of the Scots Parliament of 1579 by which every householder "esteemed worth 50 pounds in landes or gudes is halden to have an Bible and Psalm Buik in vulgar language in their houses." This is the Book which he heard read and expounded every Sabbath. It is the

Book to which he was taught to look for the rule of life and conduct, which he prized as the emblem of the reformed faith, and in the language of which his expression of piety and devotion were clothed. Yet it is an English book without one distinctively Scots word or expression in it. Even the metrical version of the Psalms, adopted by the General Assembly in 1565, was the English version of Sternhold and Hopkins. This use of the English Bible and books of devotion seems to have made the people consider the native dialect to be less appropriate for the expression of religious emotions, and may explain why it is that Burns almost invariably deserts Scots and has recourse to English in his more serious or devotional moods. When we consider the way in which the Reformation in Scotland entered into the life of the people and coloured their thoughts, we are not surprised that the familiarity with English scriptures and English psalms materially affected the speech of the people, and made it more and more assimilate itself to the language of England. Anyone who wishes to find illustrations of this anglicising of Scots need only turn to the writings of John Knox or the other prose-writers of the Reformation. Everywhere English words and English grammatical forms foreign to Scots can be found. Even the peculiar old Scots spelling is discarded. Nor is this assimilation to be wondered at, when we keep in mind that English and Scots are branches from the same parent stem, and although there are many characteristic differences between them, they are fundamentally the same language, and in the nature of things the greater was bound to absorb the less.

This process of decay in the language of Scotland which had started with the Reformation, was further hastened by the union of the Crowns. That event increased the communication between the two countries. Scotsmen now found their way to London in great numbers. The value to a Scotsman of proficiency in classical English made itself felt, the predominance of English did much to influence, if not to supplant, the native language, and although the vernacular continued to be spoken, it ceased almost entirely to be a written language. The man who spoke in

the broadest Scots would discard it as soon as he took up his pen to write, and would instinctively drop into English. Scots ceased to be a language and degenerated into a dialect, although it lingered on in Acts of Parliament and public records and to a certain extent in the law courts and the pulpit. We have an analogous phenomenon in the Dutch "taal" in South Africa. The educated Boer, when speaking to his native countrymen, uses the taal, which is a corrupt dialect of the Dutch, but when he ventures into the domain of Literature, or when he writes anything formal, it is the pure Dutch of Holland that he seeks to use.

The gradual approach of Scots to English is well illustrated by the language of the Scots Acts of Parliament. Take as an example of genuine Scots the Act of James Fifth of 1535 against forestallers, that is, people who buy goods destined for the market before they reach the market. "It is statute and ordained that na forestallers be foundin byeand victualles, fish, flesh, or other stuffe or the samin be presented to the mercat, nor yit into the mercat or the time of day statute and ordained thereto, under the pain of prisoning of their persons and escheiting of all sik gudes coft or arled be them, that is to say, the twa part of the Kingis Grace and the third part to the Shireffe or Officiar of the Shire." When we come down to the years immediately preceding the Union of the Crowns we find that the language of the Acts of Parliament has already become considerably modified, although it still retains its Scots characteristics. Take an Act of 1600 against killing salmon and other fish in the close season. "Our Soveraigne Lord and Estates of Parliament, statutes and ordains that the slaying of Salmond in forbidden tyme, or of kipper smolt or siklike fish at any tyme, shall be in all tyme comming ane cryme and theift to the committer whatsomever in all tyme comming and shall be punished as theift in every quality, according to the committers rank and estate, exceptand alwyse furth of this present Act the salmond kipper and smolts and all other fishes slaine and tane within the rivers of Annand and Tweed, allanerly." Here the language is still essentially Scots, but the

English influence is seen in the use of "shall" for "sall" as well as in the anglicised spelling. The rapid change which was taking place in the official language after the Union of the Crowns is very apparent all through the Scots Acts of the 17th century. After the middle of the century it is only here and there that we have any distinctly Scots expressions. Take an Act of William in 1695:—"Our Sovereign Lord, considering that the brandy commonly called rum made from molassus does hinder the consumpt of strong waters made of malt, which is the native product of this kingdom, as also that the said rum is rather a drug than liquor, and highly prejudicial to all who drink it; Therefore his Majesty, with advice and consent of the estates of Parliament, prohibits and discharges the making of rum except allenarly for export." The Act is decidedly Scots in character, but its language is English. The only distinctively Scots word in it is the word "allenarly," a word in everyday use with Scots lawyers at the present day.

The same anglicising process is seen in local records, but there, as a general rule, the process is not quite so rapid. Here are three extracts from the burgh records of Stirling:—20th March 1607.—"The Baillies and Counsel convenit declaires their will on Laurence Thomsoun, baxter, and his accomplices, as follows viz.:—that on ane mercat day the said Laurence salbe carriet in ane sled throw the toun, beir futit and beir heidit with ane quhite sark on him and ane paper on his heid beirin the cause of his punishment." 7th January 1641.—"Nominate and apointes Patrick Sworde and Robert Young, Merchandis commissioneris for bestowing and wairing the voluntare contribution of the toun at least nine hundrethe merkis thereof quilk is concedit and put in their handis for that effect to be comptable of the toun of their wairing." 5th June 1665.—"The Council recommendis to the twa provests, twa of the baillies, dean of gild and convener to advise anent somehow to get intelligence weeklie from Edinburgh of all public newes dureing the tyme of the war with the King of the Dutch for information of the people."

By such a process as is indicated in the passages quoted, the

vernacular of Scotland came to be supplanted by English even in official records. It is to the Scots lawyers that we owe the preservation of a few relics of a distinctively Scots language still met with in formal documents. The Sheriff-Clerk, when he issues confirmation in favour of the executors nominated by the will of the deceased John Smith, backs it up "Testament Testamentar of Umquhile John Smith." A settlement often still declares the provisions to children to be in full of "bairns' part of gear," and the provisions to the widow to be for her "liferent use allenarly." These are some of the quaint expressions which owe their preservation to the peculiar conservatism of the legal mind.

While Scots practically ceased to be a literary language early in the seventeenth century, or existed as such only in a few rude ballads and songs, it lived on as the spoken language of all classes of the people to a much later date. During the seventeenth and at least to the middle of the eighteenth centuries, the judges on the bench delivered their judgments in broad Scots, without any attempt to counterfeit the pronunciation of England. Preachers preached to their congregations in their own native dialect. The business of the shop and the market was conducted in the same familiar speech, and in the streets of our towns the same dialect, with all its peculiarities of pronunciation and accent, could be heard. Scots still remained the spoken language of the people, educated and uneducated alike, although the familiarity with English as the language of literature had a marked effect on it. The numerous stories told of the judges of the Court of Session about the end of the eighteenth century and the beginning of the nineteenth century nearly all relate to clever sayings, which are almost invariably recorded as having been spoken in Scots. Lord Braxfield, the original of Stevenson's Weir of Hermiston, who died in 1799, is said to have been the last judge who habitually used it on the Bench. It was he who said of the Radicals, "They would a' be muckle the better o' being hangit." "Hae ye ony connsel?" said he to Margarot, one of the many who appeared before him on the charge of high treason; "Dae ye want to hae ony appintit?" "No," replied Margarot, "I only

want an interpreter to make me understand what your lordship says."

The literary language, however, had a brilliant revival in the early part of the eighteenth century in the poems and songs of Allan Ramsay. Those who followed in his steps carried on the work which he had commenced, and in Burns we have the greatest achievement of the modern Scots muse, while at a later date, in the prose of Galt and Sir Walter Scott, we have the dialect perhaps in its purest and most idiomatic form. But the Scots used by these writers differs in a very marked degree from the Scots of the time of the Makars. In considering the modern Scots dialect it is to Burns that we naturally turn for our standard. He wrote in his own native tongue, in the dialect in which he was accustomed to speak, and which he continually heard spoken around him. Yet there is something conventional in the language he uses. In fact all the modern Scots poets exhibit this conventionality of form. Everywhere a kind of compromise between English and Scots is apparent. An English word or an English form of expression is always admissible. The amount of what is distinctively Scots varies materially in different poems or in different verses of the same poem. We meet with passages that are so thoroughly Scots as to be unintelligible to any but a master of that tongue, while other passages are written in pure literary English, with perhaps here and there a Scots word dropped in to express a shade of meaning that the English equivalent does not possess, or it may be simply to meet the exigencies of the metre or to supply the needful rhyme. A considerable amount of corruption of the native idiom, arising from an ignorant deference to the rules of English grammar is also found in all the modern Scots poems. Many Scots expressions appear to set at defiance the rules of English grammar, and we often find the genuine Scots construction dropped to give place to a form after the English model. Dr Murray tells us that "Scots wha hae," although consisting of Scots words, is not Scots at all, but English masquerading as Scots. Burns himself, if he had had occasion to express the meaning these words convey, in ordinary conversation with

his peasant friends, would have said "Scots that haes," for "wha," as a relative pronoun, is only of late introduction and is foreign to any of the local dialects of Scotland. The proper relative is "that." The plural form "hae" is a concession to English grammar, for the Scots plural, except where the personal pronoun immediately precedes the verb, is "haes," the same as the singular. Such an expression as "Them that finds keeps" must appear, even to the schoolboy who uses it, simply an ungrammatical way of saying "Those who find keep," but it conforms in every word to the true Scots construction. "Them" is not a mistake for "those" or "they," but is in accordance with the grammatical construction of the dialect. "Finds" and "keeps" are not ungrammatical, but the correct plural forms since the time of Barbour. Burns did not correct the grammar of the refrain of an old song when he wrote "Green *grow* the rashes, O." He adopted the English in place of the correct Scots grammatical form of the original on which his song was founded, "Green *grows* the rashes, O."

Another feature which strikes the student of modern Scots, if he compares it with the literary Scots of the Reformation times is the change in the vocabulary. Many words most characteristic of modern Scots, such as "bonnie," "braw," "cannie," "wee," "lassie," are seldom or never met with in the earlier writers, while on the other hand there has been a very serious loss in the native vocabulary. A large number of words once common have dropped out of the language, and the meaning of many of these can now only be guessed at. Such a loss was inevitable, for without a written literature the vocabulary must needs be restricted to the more limited vocabulary of the spoken language. The same process has gone on in the English language, and, as we have seen, many of the words so lost have been preserved in Scots. English, however, had always had an extensive literature, and it was able to make up for the loss of words by the acquisition of others from external sources. This, however, could not take place with Scots. The vocabulary of modern Scots is thus a depleted one and has to be supplemented by the use of English

words, unknown to the earlier Scots, so that now much of the difference between the two languages lies merely in the pronunciation. It would, however, be a mistake to speak of modern Scots as a corruption of English. It has no doubt come to be largely corrupted by the English influences to which it has been subjected, but even the broad Scots that we hear to-day is freer from corruption than modern English is. It has not been, to anything like the same extent, exposed to external influences, and it has retained its purity in a way in which English has not done. Modern Scots differs from English not because it is a corrupted form of English, but because it has been more faithful to its original form. In fact the oldest English now spoken is the broad Scots of the Scottish Lowlands.

Probably the most noteworthy characteristic of modern Scots is the musical character of the language, which makes it almost unrivalled as a medium of song. It is often spoken of as harsh and unmusical, but the reverse is the truth. With its wonderful wealth of open vowels it avoids the harshness of English, and is almost as soft as the Italian. Perhaps no country has produced such a wealth of beautiful song as Scotland has. England can hardly boast of a single song-writer of outstanding merit, while Scotland counts them by the score. The superior euphony and the musical character of the language is no doubt one of the secrets of the wealth of our national lyric poetry. The power of discarding superfluous consonants, which explains the number of apostrophes that we see on a page of Scots poetry makes the language less muscular and more liquid. It adds to the melody of the verse and makes it better adapted for the voice of the singer. Another source of superior euphony is the knack which the language has retained of forming diminutives. English once possessed this power, but lost it many centuries ago. There are only a few admissible diminutives now to be found in English, but almost every monosyllabic word has its diminutive in Scots. Such words as "lassie," "wifie," "burnie," "bairnie," "dearie," and hundreds more are in constant use, and add melody and tenderness to the verse, for a diminutive is a natural expression

of endearment. "A pretty little girl" becomes "a bonnie wee lassie," an expression infinitely more musical and with a tenderness and beauty which the English words do not possess. Besides being superior in melody, Scots also possesses characteristics which give to it a strength and a harmony peculiarly its own. It has retained many old and useful forms in the conjugation of verbs, forms with which we are familiar in Shakespeare and in the Bible, but which are now discarded in English, and even in Scots are apt to be wrongly looked upon as ungrammatical. The only past participle of the verb "get" used in the Bible is "gotten," and although the form is now obsolete in English, it is still common in the Scots dialect. In English the verb "cast" is now the same in all tenses, but in Scots the full old English conjugation still exists—"Cast," "coost," and "casten." "Maggie coost her heid fu' high." "They have casten oot." A further element of strength in Scots consists in many phrases, strong, expressive, and characteristic, which refuse to be translated into any other idiom. No one has yet been able to give a proper equivalent for the words "Auld lang syne," and who could translate into literary English or into any other tongue such a line as

"A smytrie o' wee duddie weans?"

Even the English have recognised the value of many Scots words and have not hesitated to adopt them. It is a tribute to the expressiveness of Scots that it has enriched the English vocabulary by not a few beautiful words, and has restored to it many which it had lost centuries ago. Such words as "eerie," "cozie," "weird" (as a noun meaning "fate"), "gloaming," are truly Scots, but are now used by the best English writers, and are undoubtedly more musical and more expressive than their English equivalents.

Such are some of the characteristics of the modern Scots dialect to which much of its beauty and strength are due. What, it may be asked, is the future of the language to be? That is a question not easily answered, but three statements may safely be made. The first is that, with the increase of intercommunication

between different parts of the country the various dialects spoken in Scotland will come to be assimilated with one another. Burns himself has done much to bring about this assimilation, for he has made classical his own native Ayrshire dialect, as enriched by him by the plentiful use of words which really belong to the dialect of the Lothians, and with which he had become familiar in the writings of Allan Ramsay and Fergusson. He has thus standardised the language much in the same way as Luther standardised the dialects of Germany by his translation of the Bible. The second is that, with the growth of education, Scots will become more and more contaminated by English influences, the number of those who habitually use it will diminish, and the tendency which we see at the present day, to look upon its use in ordinary conversation as a sign of vulgarity or of want of education, will become more and more pronounced. But the third is that the language of Burns can never die. So long as the spirit of Scottish nationality remains alive our national literature will not be forgotten; so long as the charm of romance remains, the Wizard of the North, with his wealth of vernacular diction, will continue to cast his spell over Scotsmen the whole world over; and so long as the loves, the joys, the humours of life continue to stir the souls of men, the ploughman Poet of Scotland will touch the hearts of his countrymen, and the language in which he sang will continue to be the language of their sweetest and noblest songs!

T. CALLANDER WADE, M.A., LL.B.

THE LETTERS OF BURNS.

WHEN a great man dies, leaving his work to be destroyed and possibly devoured by human wolves, the more ravenous of them, gorged with the feast, begin, pen in hand, to descant upon his mortal remains. Though the man's spirit may cry like that of Gray :—

> "No further seek his merits to disclose,
> Or draw his frailties from their dread abode ;
> There they alike in trembling hope repose,
> The bosom of his Father and his God !"

they open up the closed book of his life, prying with malevolent eyes into the most sacred pages, and, without understanding, they denounce. Apart from an eminent man's work itself, there is often little reliable vouchsafed to us bearing upon his character and manners. Contemporaries sometimes assist us, but even they seldom agree, for each views his fellow in the light of his own candle. In Burns's case one source of information luckily remains, and that is his letters. Some of these may be forced, and others, perhaps, untrue to the real nature of the man, but taken altogether they are the man—his thoughts, his ideals, his aspirations. To-day, when postage costs little and time means much, we dash off a sentence or two without regard to purity of expression or beauty of style. In Burns's day, however, the post was a more serious matter, and letters were carefully written and carefully treasured. We ought to feel profoundly thankful that we are privileged to read our Poet's letters to-day, and consequently enabled more fully to understand and appreciate him. To those who know him only as a simple rustic bard, or as Henley emphasises and reiterates it, "a peasant," the literary style

of his letters comes as a constant surprise and delight. His English is always perfect, and his ideas well suited to the minds of his correspondents. After his return from Kirkoswald he commenced writing to his school friends so voluminously that, though he had not three farthings worth of business in the world, he had as much correspondence as a "plodding son of day-book and ledger." Having fallen on a collection of letters by the wits of Queen Ann's reign, he pored over them and compared his own best efforts with them, which comparison, he says, flattered his vanity. The habit then begun of drafting his letters was ever after adhered to, save in one or two exceptional cases. To Mrs Dunlop his letters, after the first formal ones, were rarely drafted, but were written "from the heart" as the occasion prompted.

Our Poet's correspondence may be divided into sections, such as the letters to his patrons, those to his more intimate friends, and those to his female correspondents and relatives.

Letters to Patrons.

The letters to his patrons bespeak his mind plainly—"simple, manly, independent"—conscious of favours shown him, yet fully alive to his own genius and worth. In proof of this, I quote a portion of his letter to the Earl of Glencairn, who interested himself in Burns when the latter was in Edinburgh, and continued his warm support till his untimely death:—"Allow me to vent the fulness of my heart in thanking your lordship for all that patronage, that benevolence, and that friendship with which you have honoured me. . . . My gratitude is not selfish design; that I disdain. It is not dodging after the heel of greatness; that is an offering you disdain. It is a feeling of the same kind with my devotions." In this present century of cold-blooded selfishness and money-grabbing such a letter as this would be taken to indicate softening of the brain or canting hypocrisy. Coming from a man like Burns, it meant neither. It was simply the outcome of genuine feeling, natural and unrestrained. To Mr Graham of Fintry and others of his class there is an equal frankness and friendliness,

yet an undefined something that puts the Poet on one level and the aristocracy on another; and Burns, who recognises the relative positions, is the last to seek to cross the gulf that divides them. To Dr Moore he opens his mind regarding his own work, and in one of his letters compares his early stirring of ambition to "the blind gropings of Homer's Cyclops round the walls of his cave." Dr Moore, too, received from the Poet the longest letter he ever wrote, dealing with his early life, his struggles after fame, his faults and his follies—indeed the very heart of the man is laid bare in it, and a great heart it is. The letters of the Ellisland period are mainly those written to the friends whose acquaintance he had made while in Edinburgh. Though his duties as farmer and officer of the Excise left little time to spare, he yet contrived to keep his position as a man of letters. The literary and learned of Edinburgh have left testimony of his powers of conversation, and when his duties again called him from the society of his equals he was not forgotten.

Commonplace Book.

The Commonplace Book begun in 1783 may take a place among the Poet's letters. Into it he poured his thoughts, his hopes and fears, his aspirations and defeats. Within its covers he also stored some of his verses, and in his introductory note in the Glenriddel MS. he says:—"I had meant that the book should have lain by me in the fond hope that some time or other, even after I was no more, my thoughts would fall into the hands of somebody capable of appreciating their value." This Commonplace Book is in short a diary not only of events but of feelings. On writing the "Lass o' Ballochmyle," which was prompted by meeting Miss Alexander (whose father then owned the estate of Ballochmyle), Burns sent a copy of the poem to her, along with a letter begging permission to publish it. In the Glenriddel volume of his letters there is a note as follows:—"Well, Mr Burns, did the lady give you the desired permission?" "Oh, no, she was too fine a lady to notice so plain a compliment. . . ."

In the opening note, too, he terms himself "a man who had

little art in making money, and still less in keeping it; but was, however, a man of sense, a great deal of honesty, and unbounded goodwill to every creature, rational or irrational."

Letters to Intimate Friends.

Among the Poet's closest friends appear the names of Peter Hill, Robert Aiken, Gavin Hamilton, Richard Brown, William Nicol, Robert Ainslie, and Allan Cunningham. To these he was always the "social, honest, frien'ly man," and in his letters to them the full joy of him welled up and over. Here his sense of humour is shown to the full, yet even in his most buoyant moods streaks of deepest thought run like veins of gold through the rocky strata. It is when writing to Allan Cunningham that he calls Love the "Alpha and Omega" of human enjoyment; "the emanation of Divinity that prevents the sons and daughters of rustic labour from degenerating into the brutes with which they daily hold converse;" and ends by saying, "without it, life to the poor inmates of the cottage would be a damning gift." In a letter to Robert Ainslie he says:—"You will think it romantic when I tell you that the idea of your friendship is almost necessary to my existence. You assume the proper length of face in my bitter hour of blue-devilism, and you laugh up to my highest wishes at my good things. I don't know, upon the whole, if you are one of the finest fellows in God's world, but you are so to me." To William Nicol he wrote his only letter in Scots (1787), but it is such as to make us wish he had written more. Sometimes his humour assumes the form of burlesque—as in the letter to John Arnot of Dalquhatswood. It was written during his estrangement from Jean Armour, and affords a curious insight to his change of moods. Elsewhere he mentions the circumstances with passionate remonstrance and an undeniable cry of pain, but here he says:—"I have lost, sir, the dearest earthly treasure, that greatest blessing here below, that last, best gift, which completed Adam's happiness in the Garden of bliss. I have lost—I have lost—my trembling hand refuses its office—the frightened ink recoils up the quill—tell it not in Gath—I have lost—a—a—a wife!"

Female Correspondents.

The earliest examples of these which have been preserved are love-letters to Alison Begbie. Either Burns was not then so much a master of language as in his later letters, or Alison Begbie did not awake in him the raptures that devoured him at a later period. They appear to be the efforts of one feeling his way in a new and painful undertaking, and are hardly convincing. Yet even in these early days Burns could not altogether efface himself when using his pen, and it is indeed Burns, the Poet and the man, who writes :—" I grasp every creature in the arms of Universal Benevolence, and equally participate in the pleasures of the happy, and sympathise with the miseries of the unfortunate." That was in 1780, and in 1790 he writes to another correspondent :—" God knows I am no saint ; I have a whole host of follies and sins to answer for ; but if I could (and I believe I do it as far as I can) I would wipe all tears from all eyes." To Mrs Stewart of Stair he addressed his first letter to a lady of superior rank, but later he numbered many dames as highly born among his correspondents. His letters to Maria Riddel are always light, graceful bagatelles—sometimes witty, sometimes mock serious, but never dull. Rather different—more sincere, more earnest—are his letters to Margaret Chalmers, with whom he is said at one time to have been in love. Somehow his correspondence with this woman seems to show him at his best. Whatever the feeling he once had, it merged ultimately into a warm, tender friendship which was a source of delight to him. Writing to her he says :—" Charlotte and you are just two favourite resting-places for my soul in her wanderings through the weary, thorny wilderness of this world. God knows I am ill-fitted for the struggle. I glory in being a poet, and I want to be thought a wise man. I would fondly be generous, and I wish to be rich. After all, I'm afraid I'm a lost subject. ' Some folk hae a hantle o' fauts, and I'm but a ne'er-do-weel.' (Afternoon)—To close the melancholy reflection at the end of last sheet, I shall just add a piece of devotion commonly known in Carrick by the title of ' The Wabster's Grace ' :—

'Some say we're thieves, an' e'en sae are we;
Some say we lie, an' e'en sae do we;
Gude forgie' us, an' I hope sae will he:
Up an' to your looms, lads.'

And again, when I think I have met with you and have lived more real life with you in eight days than I can do with almost anybody I meet with in eight years—when I think on the improbability of meeting you in this world again, I could sit down and cry like a child."

Letters to Relatives.

When addressing his father, Burns never forgot the reverence due to elders, and his affection was always tempered with that respect that marked even their daily intercourse when under the same roof. To him he confides his depression, caused by ill-health and gloomy prospects—depression which found vent in "Winter: A Dirge" and other poems of equal despondency. The letters to James Burness, in Montrose, deal mainly with the condition of the county, but the change from Burns to Burness in his signature when writing both to this cousin and to his uncle is another testimony of how truly he was Nature's gentleman. The letters to his brother William are full of advice, pointing out the pitfalls that he himself knew from painful experience, but offering always something more substantial still. "Write to me before you leave Newcastle and as soon as you reach London. In a word, if ever you be, as perhaps you may be, in a strait for a little ready cash, you know my direction. I shall not see you beat while you fight like a man. Farewell! God bless you." This was written at a time, too, when Burns himself had barely enough to meet his own growing requirements. There are but few letters to Jean Armour for obvious reasons, yet they are in the warmest strains.* To Gilbert, the Poet tells more of his trials than to his other relatives. It is to him he writes in 1790:—"This farm has

* The signature of Jean in the Mauchline Record is, in our opinion, holograph, though some hold that the Poet signed for her. No letter in her hand-writing is extant, so far as we know; and in her later years she employed an amanuensis.—Ed.

undone my enjoyment of myself. It is a ruinous affair on all hands. But let it go to hell! I'll fight it out and be off with it." It is not surprising that he did not tell his affairs more to his own folk and less to strangers. This was only a natural trait of his sensitive temperament, as common to-day as then. There was the unexpressed feeling that his nearest and dearest "could not understand," besides the self-abnegating reticence he assumed when among those of his own family.

The Favoured Correspondents.

Burns's letters to Mrs M'Lehose, both on account of their value and of their number, merit a place to themselves. They form a remarkable collection and have been the subject of much discussion and speculation; but to me they appear to be little more than the idle outcome of an idle hour. Kept by his lame leg a prisoner in his lodgings in Edinburgh, can we wonder that Sylvander caught at anything that would tend to brighten his enforced loneliness and inactivity. At their first meeting he had admired Clarinda's person and mind, and she, as she informed him afterwards, had not waited to see him before admiring him. That the letters became too warm to have passed between mere friends is undeniable, but Clarinda was no doubt struck by the Poet's genius and personality and flattered by his admiration for herself; while he, on his part, was gratified at a woman of her position and intellect being so desirous of his further acquaintance. It must also be remembered that Burns was at this time suffering from his estrangement with Jean Armour, and the tender feelings which had been so rudely thrust back on him must needs find some other outlet. That Clarinda was a married woman was a fact scarcely considered by either, and perhaps for excusable reasons. Her husband was unworthy of the name, and her nature seems to have been one with a great capacity to love. At first the letters were mere friendly ones, but by-and-bye they became so warm that Clarinda found it necessary to remind Burns of her husband's existence. She talks mainly of religion, but her exceptional position and her keen sense of right and wrong only fan the

flame in his soul. By some critics Clarinda has been sneered at, but I think the best proof of her integrity and uprightness is to be found in our Poet's having any regard for her at all. Burns never loved any but good women—honest, sweet, natural women; those of different character might awaken his divine pity, but nothing more. His first letters to Clarinda are a little forced; he was either in earnest and fancied he was not, or was not in earnest and fancied he was. But there are times when his feelings, being, as he says, "of tinder," strike each other so forcibly that sparks of very real passion are the result. To me it appears natural that he should wish to write such letters to a cultured and accomplished woman, for there is little doubt that what his artistic instinct compelled him to write to Clarinda would have been to Jean Armour—faithful and loving woman as she was—"a wheen blethers." The letters stop suddenly, and Clarinda upbraids Burns for the step he has taken in marrying Jean. This seems unfair, for previously she declares herself desirous of seeing him and "certain other matters" rightly settled. In his reply he makes use of this sentence:—"Though I were conscious that I had acted wrong, and I am conscious that I have acted wrong—yet would I not be bullied into repentance." This is purely the outcome of mental irritation and regret, possibly at what he had lost, for though Jean Armour was his wife, and though he would have been less than a man had he not confirmed his irregular marriage on his return from Edinburgh, yet the glamour of the city was still about him, and Clarinda was of like mind with himself as well as of pleasing personality. By-and-bye he settled into the even routine, and he forbids Clarinda to remind him of these weeks in Edinburgh.

"No cold language—no prudential documents. I despise advice and scorn control. If you send me a page baptised in the font of sanctimonious prudence, by heaven, earth, and hell, I will tear it to atoms." To be able to understand this as well as certain other letters, it is necessary to read the entire collection and to picture the difference between the eminence from which our Poet descended when he once more took up the plough.

Even then it needs one of "quicksilver temperament" to fully comprehend what such a difference meant to Burns.

The correspondence with Mrs Dunlop is also published separately, but though she, too, is of a literary turn of mind, and is without doubt of irreproachable character, yet her letters make much less interesting reading than those of Mrs M'Lehose. Mrs Dunlop's age made such a correspondence with Burns possible, and her first letter came at a time when the Poet was thirsting for recognition and kindly criticism. This criticism she continued to pour on him almost to the last, though at times it can hardly be called "kindly." Notwithstanding the "candid friend" nature of her strictures, he seemed to have liked her letters, which he calls "interesting and instructive." "Of the contents," he says, "they are truly the work of a friend." To Mrs Dunlop he first mentions the episode of Highland Mary, "whose bosom was fraught with truth, constancy, and love." To her he writes "from the fulness of the heart," and it is easy to trace his moods —now gay, now serious, now full of that melancholy from which he was never altogether free. After an airy note to Maria Riddel we find another weary, heart-searching epistle to Mrs Dunlop, pouring out his thoughts on religion, on politics, and on his own daily life. His tone is ever respectful, and no doubt her pride was flattered at being so intimate with one who was so conspicuously a son of genius. He was inclined to think the favour was all upon his side, yet once he had occasion to exclaim, when she criticised unduly some of his pieces: "I sometimes reserve the privilege of thinking for myself." But this friend also fell away just when he needed friends most, and his last letter to her is pitiful:—"Madam, I have written so often without receiving any answer that I would not trouble you again but for the circumstances in which I am—an illness which has long hung about me, in all probability will speedily send me beyond that bourne whence no traveller returns. Your friendship, with which for many years you honoured me, was a friendship dearest to my soul. Your conversation, and especially your correspondence, were at once highly entertaining and instructive. With

what pleasure did I use to break up the seal! The remembrance yet adds one pulse more to my poor, palpitating heart. Farewell!!!" This letter was written on the 10th July, 1796. Burns died on the 21st of the same month.

One other correspondent to whom Burns addressed a large number of letters was George Thomson, to whose collection of songs the Poet so largely contributed. These letters, locating the sources of many old ballads and songs, and enclosing his own new ones, give us some idea of what the Poet has done, not for Scotland but the whole world. What patience and time must have been consumed in collecting the scraps of ancient songs and ballads, mending their rags or dressing them anew in robes of virgin purity. Where the old words could not be made fit for ears polite, he made entirely new verses of such beauty, such divine pathos, and such all-embracing humanity as to render them the property of no age and no country, but of the world for all time. He stipulated with Thomson that he might use the native tongue of Scotland; all the exquisite airs that had passed from grandmother to grandchild he noted down; and freely the words suggested themselves as he listened to the old strains sung by Jean or Kirsty Flint. Though Burns disliked adverse criticism of his poems, he yielded with surprising readiness to Thomson's alterations on his songs. Some of these alterations were not improvements, and here and there Burns was conscious of this. Where such was the case, Thomson had also to learn that the Poet was capable of "thinking for himself," for, once his mind was made up, he refused to be influenced by the judgment of Thomson or anyone else. "Now, don't let it enter your head that you are under any necessity of taking my verses," he writes, "though you should reject one-half of what I give you I shall be pleased with your adapting t'other half, and shall continue to serve you with the same assiduity." Thomson, however, saw fit to adapt almost all that the Poet sent; and when we compare the songs of his native land, before he set to work on them, with those in the Thomson collection, a true sense of the fullness of his genius and the extent of the work he accomplished begins to

dawn upon us. He talks of ballad-making as his "hobby-horse," and, indeed, the subject was such a congenial one that it brought brightness and consolation to what was, without doubt, the darkest period of his life. Writing of the payment he was to receive, he says—"As to remuneration, you may think my songs either above or below price, for they shall absolutely be the one or the other. In the honest enthusiasm with which I embark in your undertaking, to talk of money, wages, fees, etc., would be downright prostitution of soul." Looking at his songs to-day, there can be no doubt of the truth of his implied prophecy that they would be indeed above price, for money can never be recompense fitting or sufficient for the rich and imperishable heritage he has bequeathed to us.

ELIZABETH W. INGRAM.

BURNS AND THE DOMINIES.

THE most casual reader of the life of Burns must have observed that of the multitude of people, from the peasant to the peer, with whom his genius and his fame brought him into close relationship, schoolmasters form a considerable number. "All his life," says Professor Wilson, in his essay on the Poet, "he was associated with schoolmasters, finding, along with knowledge, talent and integrity, originality and strength of character, prevalent in that meritorious and ill-rewarded class of men." When we consider this long-life intimacy, which must have had no small influence on both sides—though it is not my intention to enquire into that influence at present—does it not seem remarkable that no one has devoted any particular attention to Burns and the dominies? There has been an innumerable multitude of lectures and addresses, of books and essays having Burns as their main theme, published; and the circumstances of his life, his genius, his work, his character, his heroes and heroines, and a host of other persons more or less associated with him have been described and discussed; but I am not aware that any speaker or writer has taken up, for the purpose of dealing with it exhaustively, the subject to which I am now inviting attention, and I feel therefore that if what I am going to say is not new to the student of Burns—what, indeed, can be new about Burns to-day, unless the way in which it is put?—the arrangement of the facts may be interesting—though it were for no other reason—because of their novelty. Of one thing, at any rate, I am certain, we cannot but feel that it is good for us to linger for some time in the company of Burns and his friends the dominies.

At the outset let me mention who those friends were. First there was John Murdoch, his early tutor, and then Hugh Rodger,

Kirkoswald: David Sillar, Tarbolton, a brother poet; William Simpson, Ochiltree; John Wilson, the "Dr Hornbook" of the satire, who might be more appropriately described as an acquaintance; William Nicol, William Cruickshank, and Allan Masterton, who may aptly be called the Edinburgh group; James Clarke, whom Burns so nobly defended against injustice; and James Gray, who was one of the first to dissipate the calumnies which had been so industriously heaped up around the character of the Poet. There were other schoolmasters whose relationships with Burns were too slight to warrant them being included in this list; but some reference will be made to them at proper places in the course of the paper.

Most people if asked, Who was the first teacher of Burns? would reply John Murdoch, and so prominent was the part which he took in the early education of the Poet that one need not wonder at the mistake, for mistake it is. The first schoolmaster under whom Burns sat was one Campbell, an Alloway teacher, who had care of the boy for only six months, when he was appointed master of the workhouse at Ayr. But I want here to put forward the claim that the first teacher of Robert Burns was his own father. William Burns was a man of more than ordinary intelligence who closely read the best books and thought deeply, and gave evidence of his culture even in his commonplace conversation. Such a man could not leave the education of his children entirely to others, however capable they might be in the art of giving instruction. He taught them many things, both by precept and example, and though his children had never entered a school they would not have been illiterate. John Murdoch, in a letter to Professor Walker, one of the biographers of Burns, declared that the boy's principal instructor was his father. "He spoke the English language," wrote Murdoch, "with more propriety, both in respect to dictation and pronunciation, than any man I ever knew with no greater advantages. This had a very good effect on the boys"—that is Robert and Gilbert—"who began to talk and reason like men much sooner than their neighbours." Gilbert Burns alludes to the same fact

in a letter to Mrs Dunlop. "My father," he says, "was for some time almost the only companion we had. He conversed familiarly on all subjects with us, as if we had been men, and was at great pains, while we accompanied him on the labours of the farm, to lead the conversation to such subjects as might tend to increase our knowledge or confirm us in virtuous habits." The children of such a father could not but be intelligent—they were constantly acquiring knowledge in the way that it was most likely to be remembered and be of service.

This brief glance at the early education of Burns provides some information as to the method—or rather want of method—of education at the end of the 18th century. Our educational system, as we know it to-day, had not been thought of then. The school at Alloway belonged to Campbell, and he could do whatever he liked with it. When, therefore, he received an appointment in Ayr he closed the door and took the key with him—that is supposing it had a key—leaving the parents in the neighbourhood to find education for their children as best they might. William Burns, in co-operation with others, engaged Murdoch, who was then only 18 years of age, to teach their children. Murdoch had no school, and he was boarded in turn by the parents of his pupils. He was a capable teacher, and both Robert and Gilbert made decided progress on the road to learning. Robert's proficiency in English was, wrote his brother, "of considerable weight in unfolding his genius and character, as he soon became remarkable for the fluency and correctness of his expression, and read the few books that came in his way with pleasure and improvement." This instruction had lasted two or three years when Murdoch got an appointment in another locality, and the children of William Burns were again without any teacher, save their father, who taught them during the day by excellent conversation, and in the evening by something more closely approaching the methods of the school.

A striking incident in the boyhood of Burns may be introduced here. It is related in a letter written by Gilbert to Mrs Dunlop, and may, because of its brevity, be quoted in full. "I

remember," says Gilbert, "a circumstance which, though trifling in itself, is fresh in my memory, and may serve to illustrate the early character of my brother. Murdoch came to spend a night with us, and to take his leave, when he was about to go into Carrick. He brought as a present and memorial of him a small compendium of English grammar, and the tragedy of 'Titus Andronicus,' and by way of passing the evening he began to read the play aloud. We were all attention for some time, till presently the whole party was dissolved in tears. A female in the play (I have but a confused remembrance of it) had her hands chopped off and her tongue cut out, and then was insultingly desired to call for water to wash her hands. At this, in an agony of distress, we with one voice desired that he would read no more. My father observed that if we did not hear it out it would be needless to leave the play with us. Robert replied that if it was left he would burn it. My father was going to chide him for this ungrateful return to his tutor's kindness; but Murdoch interfered, declaring that he liked to see so much sensibility, and he left 'The School for Love,' a comedy translated, I think, from the French, in its place."

From his ninth till his thirteenth year Burns had only his father for teacher. Even at the latter age the boy had given no indication of becoming a fine penman, and indeed he wrote so badly that he was then sent to a school at Dalrymple to be improved in that respect. In the meantime Murdoch had returned to Ayr—his native town—and Robert next went to board with him for a few weeks to have his English revised. At the same time he studied French, showing, we are told, great facility in acquiring that language, being able to understand any French author in prose, and from his correspondence it is evident that he never forgot what he had learned in his boyhood. It is worth noting that Murdoch taught French orally—that is, he sought to make his pupils, by imitating the spoken word and phrase, learn the foreign tongue in the same way that they learned their native tongue. One Robinson, a writing-master in Ayr, and a friend of Murdoch's, noticing the rapid progress of Burns in

French, advised him to study Latin, a language which, however, did not present any attractions to him.

Murdoch and Burns were more than master and pupil—they were close friends, and we may be sure that they enjoyed much pleasant intercourse before the occurrence of the unhappy incident which resulted in the dismissal of the teacher from his post and his departure from the country. A complaint laid before the magistrates in 1776 set forth that Murdoch did, "particularly within the house of Mrs Tennant, innkeeper in Ayr, as well as the house of Patrick Auld, weaver in Ayr, utter the following, or such like unworthy, base, reproachful, and wicked expressions, viz., that he, Dr William Dalrymple, was as revengeful as hell, as false as the devil, and that he was a liar, or a damned liar; that he, the said John Murdoch, also called Mr Dalrymple a hypocrite, or accused him of hypocrisy." Murdoch thought that the Doctor, who was minister of Ayr, and the "Dalrymple mild" of the Poet's satire, had not shown him the respect which his position entitled him to; but in Ayr, said Gilbert Burns, he might as well have spoken blasphemy, and there was no pardon for the offence. Going to London, Murdoch supported himself by the triple occupation of teaching, writing, and shopkeeping. He survived till 1824.

Burns and Murdoch probably never saw each other again after the latter went to London; but they corresponded occasionally, and two quotations from their letters may be made. Writing from Lochlea under date 15th Jany., 1783, Burns said that no doubt Murdoch "wanted to hear the result of all the pains of an indulgent father and a masterly teacher," and proceeds to give some particulars about his reading. "My favourite authors," he says, "are of the sentimental kind—such as Shenstone, particularly his *Elegies*; Thomson; *Man of Feeling* (a book I prize next to the Bible); *Man of the World*; Sterne, especially his *Sentimental Journey*; Macpherson's *Ossian*, etc. These are the glorious models after which I endeavour to form my conduct, and 'tis incongruous, 'tis absurd to suppose that the man whose mind glows with sentiments lighted up at their sacred

flame, the man whose heart distends with benevolence to the whole human race, he 'who can soar above this little sphere of things,' can he descend to mind the paltry concerns about which the terraefilial race fret and fume and vex themselves?"

Murdoch, in a letter written four years later, gave expression to the hope that he would see his old pupil again, either in Scotland or England. "If you ever come hither," he wrote, "you will have the satisfaction of seeing your poems relished by the Caledonians in London full as much as they can be by those of Edinburgh. We frequently repeat some of your verses in our Caledonian Society, and you may believe that I am not a little vain that I have had some share in cultivating such a genius. . . . Pray let me know if you have any intention of visiting this huge overgrown metropolis? It would afford matter for a large poem. Here you would have an opportunity of indulging your vein in the study of mankind, perhaps to a greater degree than in any city upon the face of the globe; for the inhabitants of London, as you know, are a collection of all nations, kindred and tongues, who make it, as it were, the centre of their commerce."

The only other dominie with whom Burns was related as a pupil was Hugh Rodger, the schoolmaster at Kirkoswald, who gave him a quarter's instruction in land-surveying. The story of how Burns defeated this teacher in a debate has often been told. Burns and his school companion, William Niven, were in the habit of exercising their reasoning powers by debating given subjects, opposing each other without regard to what their own opinions were. Rodger heard of this, and taunted the boys before the whole school. Burns defended their practice, and boldly challenged the dominie to take any side he liked in that day's debate, and he would support the other. Rodger unwisely agreed. The subject was, "Whether is a great General or a respectable Merchant the most valuable member of society?" and he led off the debate in favour of the military leader. Burns advocated the claims of the merchant so effectively that the whole school were soon aware of his advantage. Rodger tried to

reply, but his effect was so feeble and his discomfiture so evident, that he hastily closed the discussion.

With the departure of Burns from Kirkoswald Rodger passed out of his life. I do not find any trace of their meeting again, or of any correspondence having taken place between them. Whatever may have been the case with Burns we can well imagine that the schoolmaster had no great desire to continue the acquaintanceship of his pupil. Yet if, in after years, it may have been the proud boast of Rodger that he had the honour of completing the education of the Poet, for Burns never attended another school, and in future, when he associated with the dominies, it was in the character of a friend or acquaintance instead of a pupil.

The first of these schoolmasters, with whom Burns as a young man with rapidly developing powers which were gaining for him the reputation of a poet entered into a close intimacy was David Sillar, who was not a teacher at that time, and indeed did not become master of a school until, as the bye-word says, everything else had failed. But though Sillar was less of a dominie than some of the other friends of Burns mentioned in this paper, his claim to be included is great, because it is to this friendship we owe one of the finest and most characteristic poems of Burns—the "Epistle to Davie." The overtures for an introduction came from Sillar, who in a letter described how it was brought about. "Robert Burns," he wrote, "was some time in the parish of Tarbolton prior to my acquaintance with him. His social disposition easily procured him acquaintance; but a certain satirical seasoning, with which he and all poetical geniuses are in some degree influenced, while it set the rustic circle in a roar, was not unaccompanied by its kindred attendant—suspicious fear. I recollect hearing his neighbours observe that he had a great deal to say for himself, and that they suspected his principles. He wore the only tied hair in the parish, and in the church his plaid, which was of a particular colour, I think fillemot*, he wrapped in a particular manner round his shoulders. These surmises, and his exterior, had such a magical influence on my

*Yellowish brown.

curiosity as made me particularly solicitous of his acquaintance. Whether my acquaintance with Gilbert was casual or premeditated I am not now certain. By him I was introduced not only to his brother but to the whole of the family, where in a short time I became a frequent, and, I believe, not unwelcome visitant."

It was on one of the visits of Sillar that Burns, sitting at the supper table, and reading as was his custom—the book is said to have been *Tristram Shandy*—let his spoon fall out of his hand, an incident which made him exclaim in a tone which Sillar described as scarcely imitable, "Alas, poor Yorrick!"

In the letter from which I have just quoted Sillar presents us with the following account of their Sunday intercourse:—"After the commencement of my acquaintance with the Bard we frequently met upon Sundays at church, when, between sermons, instead of going with our friends or lassies to the inn, we often took a walk in the fields. In these walks I have been frequently struck by his facility in addressing the fair sex, and many times when I have been bashfully anxious how to express myself he would have entered into conversation with them with the greatest ease and freedom, and it was generally a death-blow to our conversation, however agreeable, to meet a female acquaintance."

Not only was Sillar not a schoolmaster by profession, but various authorities agree in saying that he was not even a scholar, a distinction conferred on him by Allan Cunningham. His education was inferior to that of Burns; but he possessed those social qualities so greatly esteemed by the Poet, who hailed him as a very brother. "Flattery I detest," wrote Burns in his epistle to Sillar, whom he there called the "Ace o' Hearts," adding that "to say aught else wad wrang the cartes." They were both members of Tarbolton Bachelors' Club, and of course, in accordance with the principles of that institution, were both over ears in love—

> "Ye hae your Meg, your dearest part,
> And I my darling Jean."

Sillar was the son of a farmer; but a country life was not to his liking, and in his 23rd year he removed to Irvine, where he

started business as a grocer. It was during the residence of Sillar in that town that Burns composed and addressed to him the epistle in which he discourses so vigorously from the Pauline text —"Godliness with contentment is great gain":—

"It's hardly in a body's pow'r
To keep, at times, frae being sour,
To see how things are shared;
How best o' chiels are whyles in want,
While coofs on countless thousands rant,
And ken na how to wair't:
But Davie, lad, ne'er fash your head,
Tho' we hae little gear,
We're fit to win our daily bread,
As lang's we're hale and fier:
''Mair spier na, nor fear na,'
Auld age ne'er mind a feg;
The last o't, the warst o't,
Is only but to beg." *

Sillar made some pretensions to being a poet, and doubtless encouraged by the fame of his friend, he published his verses in 1789. Burns gave the venture what help he could in the way of procuring subscribers: but even the assistance of the national Poet could not make mediocrity successful—the book did not sell, and Sillar became a bankrupt. He also failed in his attempt to find literary work in Edinburgh, and, retiring to Irvine, "opened a school chiefly for the instruction of young seamen in the science of navigation." The only experience of teaching which Sillar had was two months he taught in the school at Tarbolton during the vacancy which preceded the appointment of John Wilson. The school, nevertheless, prospered, and his financial difficulties were finally removed by the inheritance of considerable wealth. His social position thus established, he entered the Town Council, and was duly elected to the magistracy. He died much respected in 1830, at the age of 70. "Intensely parsimonious," writes one of his biographers, "he refused to contribute towards the Poet's monument on the banks of the Doon, but he loved to discourse on his intimacy with the Bard, and to celebrate each anniversary

* See "Epistle to Davie, a British Poet."

of his birth." Thus did "The Ace o' Hearts" requite his friend and correspondent.

While the intimacy of Burns with the dominies was very close, it is somewhat remarkable that only two of his poetical epistles were addressed to them. One of these has just been referred to; the other was received by William Simpson, who had sent a similar communication to Burns on the subject of "The Twa Herds." This epistle shows Burns in one of his best moods, portraying his intense love for the place of his birth—the local patriotism which leads to the larger love of country—and also his love of Nature, not only when its face is fair with the charm of summer, but also when it wears the sterner aspect of winter :—

> "Willie, set your fit to mine,
> An' cock your crest,
> We'll gar our streams and burnies shine,
> Up wi' the best."

The recipient of this fine epistle was the schoolmaster at Ochiltree, and a man of both intelligence and education. Simpson, who was the senior of Burns by one year, having been born in 1758, intended to study for the ministry; but in his 21st year he accepted the post of schoolmaster of his native parish which he held for eight years when he was appointed parish schoolmaster at Cumnock, where he died in 1815. His brother, Patrick, succeeded him in Ochiltree. He also was an acquaintance of Burns, and some editors have confounded him with his brother.

About the same time that the epistles to Sillar and Simpson were penned Burns wrote one of the severest of his many severe satires—"Death and Dr Hornbook"—in which the pretensions of John Wilson, the parish schoolmaster of Tarbolton, to medical skill are admirably held up to ridicule. The emoluments of the dominie were somewhat scanty, and to eke out a living he started a shop, in which he sold groceries and various concoctions for the cure of "all the ills that flesh is heir to." He had received no medical training, and his knowledge of therapeutics was derived from books, principally *Buchan's Domestic Medicine.* "Dr Hornbook," said Burns, "is professionally a Brother of the

Sovereign Order of the Ferula; but by intuition and inspiration is at once an apothecary, surgeon, and physician." The satire was occasioned by the schoolmaster, at a meeting of the Tarbolton Masonic Lodge, of which he was secretary, making an ostentatious display of his alleged skill in medicine, a display which so annoyed Burns that they fell out over the matter—it was evidently not a harmony night—and the Poet revenged himself on the quack doctor by the composition of "Death and Dr Hornbook." According to the satire the doctor did not cure but kill, and Death had good cause to complain of being deprived of his lawful prey. It is thus that the last enemy of mankind sets forth his grievances:—

> "Whare I kill'd ane, a fair strae-death,
> By loss o' bluid, or want o' breath,
> This night I'm free to tak my aith,
> That Hornbook's skill
> Has clad a score i' their last claith,
> By drap and pill."

John Wilson was presumptuous; but we will gladly forgive that shortcoming, nay, declare that we are thankful for it, because but for this defect in his character Burns would not have been provoked to produce such a delightful satire. The business instinct which induced Wilson to increase his income by the sale of drugs and groceries also taught him that he might use the notoriety which he had gained by the publication of the poem to still further advance his worldly affairs, and he attributed his subsequent success in no small degree to the attention which he had received from Burns. He once told Gilbert Burns that while the poem was pretty severe in some things it was on the whole rather a compliment, a remark which may be accepted as good evidence of his vanity. Wilson left Tarbolton in consequence of a dispute with the heritors about his salary, and settled in Gorbals, Glasgow, where he taught a successful school, and also became session-clerk. He died at an advanced age, and in easy circumstances, in 1839.

During the lengthened stay which Burns made in Edinburgh, where he went for the purpose of publishing the second edition

of his poems, he became acquainted with three schoolmasters, with whom he formed friendships of the closest character. These men were William Nicol, William Cruickshank, and Allan Masterton. They were all men of culture, occupying high places in the educational system of the capital, and endowed with social qualities which could not fail to endear them to a man like Burns. Nicol, with whom the Poet latterly lodged, was assistant master of the High School, a position to which he had raised himself by perseverance and ability. The son of a poor tradesman in Annan parish, Nicol, when quite a lad, opened a school in his mother's house, and earned enough to enable him to study at Annan Academy and the University of Edinburgh, applying himself at the latter institution to theology and medicine. "He was," says Chambers, "one of the most popular of masters, and but for an irascible temper he would probably have outshone most of his compeers." The Poet was very conscious of the defects of his friend, and on this account had some trouble with him on the northern tour, which was made in his company; but these in no way lessened the regard which he had for one so clever, so witty, and so warm-hearted. "O, Mr Nicol," he once wrote, "can time ever extinguish the glowing remembrance of you in my bosom. The idea of your uncommon abilities may dissipate a little in comparison; but where, except surrounding the Fountain of Goodness, shall I find a heart to equal yours?" In another letter he wrote:—"I never, my friend, thought mankind very capable of anything generous, but the stateliness of the patricians in Edinburgh, and the servility of my plebeian brethren (who perhaps formerly eyed me askance) since I returned home, have nearly put me out of conceit altogether with my species. . . . But from you, my ever dear sir, I look with confidence for the Apostolic love that shall wait on me through good report and bad report, the love which Solomon emphatically says 'is strong as death.'" Nicol was fifteen years older than the Poet, and survived him by nearly a year; but this did not stand in the way of Burns writing his epitaph:—

"Ye maggots feed on Nicol's brain,
For few sic feasts you've gotten,
And fix your claws in Nicol's heart,
For deil a bit o't's rotten."

Here it may be said that it was by Nicol that Burns was introduced to Ebenezer Michie, the schoolmaster of Cleish, in Fifeshire. Burns and his friend were out walking when they met Michie, who accompanied them to the Poet's lodgings, where a merry night was spent. The Fifer fell asleep, and Burns took the opportunity of his silence to compose his epitaph, in which his excellencies as an instructor of the young were concisely suggested :—

"Here lie Eben Michie's banes,
O, Satan, an' ye tak' him,
Gie him the schulin' o' your weans
For clever deils he'll mak' 'em."

William Cruickshank, with whom Burns lodged during his second winter in Edinburgh, was classical master in the High School, and was probably introduced to the Poet by his colleague, William Nicol. Trained under his uncle, the famous schoolmaster of Duns, and having besides this advantage, a university education, Cruickshank possessed as much culture as Nicol, without his disagreeable temper. Burns loved him, and with his accustomed fulness of expression did not hesitate to say so. He addressed him as "the only man I ever knew who joined the most attentive prudence with the warmest generosity," and in a letter to Alexander Cunningham, the Edinburgh lawyer, he said, "Cruickshank is a glorious production of the Author of Man," and "dear to me as the ruddy drops that warm my heart." To the Rev. John Skinner Burns wrote that "Cruickshank was said to be one of the best Latinists of his age," and when the inevitable epitaph was produced this attainment was duly celebrated :—

"Honest Will to Heaven is gane,
And mony shall lament him :
His fauts they a' in Latin lay—
In English nane e'er kent them."

Cruickshank died in 1795.

It must be mentioned here that the heroine of two of the songs of Burns—"A Rose-bud by My Early Walk," and "Beauteous Rose-bud, Young and Gay,"—was Jenny, the only daughter of William Cruickshank. This little girl—she was just twelve years of age when Burns went to Edinburgh—had a very good voice for singing, and she also showed considerable proficiency as a pianist. The Poet took advantage of her voice and instrument to adapt his songs to suitable airs, and Professor Walker tells how he once found him "seated by the harpsichord of this young lady, listening with the keenest interest to his own verses which she sung and accompanied, and adjusting them to the music by repeated trials of effect. In this occupation he was so totally absorbed that it was difficult to draw his attention from it for a moment." It may also be noted that the air of the song, "A Rose-bud by my Early Walk," published in Johnson's collection, was, in the words of Burns, "composed by David Sillar, quondam merchant and now schoolmaster in Irvine." Sillar had perhaps more claim to be called a musician than a poet, and Burns hailed him as "a brither fiddler" as well as "a brither poet."

There is not much information of a biographical character to be found about Allan Masterton. He was one of the writing-masters in the High School, and was, like Nicol and Cruickshank, a man after Burns's own heart. The Poet described Masterton as one of the worthiest and best-hearted men living. "He and I," he also wrote, "were both sprouts of Jacobitism." "To tell the matter of fact," he added, "except when my passions were heated by some accidental cause my Jacobitism was merely by way of *vive la bagatelle.*" Masterton was a talented musician, and he composed airs to four songs of Burns, viz.:—"Beware of Bonie Ann," in which the charms of one of his own daughters were celebrated; "Willie Brewed a Peck o' Maut," in which he himself figured; "Strathallan's Lament," and "The Braes of Ballochmyle." He died in 1799.

The departure of Burns from Edinburgh did not sever the friendship which had been formed between him and the three High School teachers. They corresponded occasionally, and

Burns, Nicol, and Masterton met again more than once. "Willie Brewed a Peck o' Maut" describes one of these reunions, which took place in 1789. "The occasion of the song," says Burns, "was this: Mr William Nicol, of the High School, Edinburgh, during the autumn vacation being at Moffat, honest Allan, who was at that time on a visit to Dalswinton, and I went to pay Nicol a visit. We had such a joyous meeting that Mr Masterton and I agreed each in our own way that we should celebrate the business." What Masterton produced has not been preserved; but we are content with Burns's account of what in modern phrase must have been "a high old time":—

> "Here are we met, three merry boys,
> Three merry boys, I trow, are we;
> And mony a night we've merry been,
> And mony mae we hope to be."

That these hopes were not altogether unrealised is evidenced by a story told by Chambers, and it may be repeated in the language of that biographer:—"Nicol and Masterton," he says, "had come to spend a week of their vacation at Dumfries for the purpose of enjoying the society of their friend Burns. The scene of 'The Peck o' Maut' was renewed every evening in the Globe Tavern. Excepting, indeed, that Burns attended to his duty in the forenoon, and that Willie and Allan took a rattling walk before dinner to give themselves an appetite, it might be said that the week was one unbroken round of merry-making. One day when they were to dine at the Globe, they found on coming in at three, that no dinner had been ordered. As Burns had taken on himself this duty, the fault was his, and the other two gentlemen were wroth with him accordingly. 'Just like him,' quo' Mrs Hislop; 'ye might hae kent that *he's* ne'er to lippen to.' 'Well, but can we have anything to eat? You know we must dine somehow.' Mrs Hislop, or as Burns called her, Meg, was not without resource. There was a tup's head in the pot for John and herself; if they pleased they might have the first of it. When it had been disposed on the board Nicol said: 'Burns, we fine you for neglect of arrangements; give us something new as a

grace.' The Poet instantly, with appropriate gesture and tone, said :—

> 'O, Lord, when hunger pinches sore,
> Do Thou stand us in stead,
> And send us from thy bounteous store
> A tup—or wether head.'

They fell to and enjoyed their fare prodigiously. 'Now, Burns, we have not done with you ; we fine you again. Return thanks.' He as promptly responded with :—

> 'O, Lord, since we have feasted thus,
> Which we so little merit,
> Let Meg now take away the flesh,
> And Jock bring in the spirit.' "

The words of Dr Currie, contained in his biography of Burns, written in 1799, are sad :—"These three honest fellows—all men of uncommon talents—are now all under the turf."

Another Edinburgh dominie whom Burns met in the course of his visit to the city was Alexander Christison, who was also on the staff of the High School. There is very little notice of this teacher in the biographies of the Poet, and it is probable that they did not meet on more than one or two occasions. It was in Christison's house, at a breakfast given to a number of literary people, that an incident which has often been related occurred. The conversation turned on Gray's "Elegy," on which one of the company—a clergyman—passed some hostile criticism of a general character. Gray's masterpiece was one of the favourite poems of Burns, who defended the work, and asked the critic to quote the passages which he thought objectionable. This the clergyman attempted to do, but made so many blunders that Burns, losing his temper, turned to him and said contemptuously, "Sir, I now perceive a man may be an excellent judge of poetry by square and rule, and after all be a d—— blockhead." Mrs Christison, who sat beside Burns, had an infant in her arms, and he apologised to the child with the words, "I beg your pardon, my little dear."

The intimacy to which allusion has now to be made shows Burns in a different aspect—that of a friend in need who is a

friend indeed. No one could fight better than Burns in the cause of justice, and the way he defended his friend James Clarke, the schoolmaster of Moffat, is admirable evidence of this statement. Burns must have become acquainted with this teacher when travelling in the Moffat district as an Exciseman. He found him to be a man of great worth, and when he was unjustly accused was prepared to make, and did make, every effort possible in his defence. The patrons of the school were the ministers, magistrates and Town Council of Edinburgh, some of whom had charged Clarke with undue severity to the boys, and he was threatened with dismissal from his situation. Burns, who declared that he knew the merits of the case thoroughly, believed that Clarke was "falling a sacrifice to prejudiced ignorance and envious, causeless malice." He appealed to his friend Alexander Cunningham, Edinburgh, to use his influence with his uncle, Principal Robertson, the historian, on behalf of the persecuted schoolmaster, and he introduced Clarke to Cunningham in a letter in which he gives strong expression to some of his views on education. "He," that is, Clarke, "is accused (wrote Burns) of harshness to some perverse dunces that were placed under his care. God help the teacher, if a man of sensibility and genius, and such is my friend Clarke, when a booby father presents him with his booby son, and insists on lighting up the rays of science in a fellow's head whose skull is impervious and inaccessible by any other way than a positive fracture with a cudgel; a fellow whom, in fact, it savours of impiety to attempt to make a scholar of, as he has been marked a blockhead in the book of fate at the almighty fiat of his Creator."

Burns also introduced Clarke to the Rev. William Moodie, minister of St. Andrew's Church, Edinburgh, in a letter, from which the following may be quoted:—"A man of abilities, a man of genius, a man of worth, and my friend; before I would stand quietly and silently by, and see him perish thus, I would down on my knees to the rocks and mountains, and implore them to fall on his persecutors, and crush their malice and them in deserved destruction."

Clarke was cheered with letters such as this from Burns:—"Courage *mon ami*, the day may after all be yours; but at any-rate there is other air to breathe than that of Moffat, pestiferously tainted as it is with the breath of that arch scoundrel, J——. There are two quotations from two poets, which, in situations such as yours, were congenial to my soul. Thomson says:—

> 'What proves the hero truly great
> Is never, never to despair.'

And Dr Young:—

> 'On Reason build Resolve,
> That column of true majesty in man.'"

At length after many months of effort by Burns and several of his friends, Clarke succeeded in freeing himself from his persecutors; but he did not remain in Moffat, removing to Forfar, where he prospered in his profession. Clarke had also received financial assistance from the Poet, and the money had not been paid back in the beginning of 1796, when Burns himself got into difficulties. He was obliged to ask Clarke to pay the loan in whole or in part. The reply of Clarke is worth quoting:—"My dear friend, your letter makes me very unhappy; the more so as I had heard very flattering accounts of your situation some months ago. A note (21s) is enclosed, and if such partial payments be acceptable this shall soon be followed by more. My appointment here has more than answered my expectations, but furnishing a large house, etc., has kept me still very poor, and the persecution I suffered from that rascal, Lord Hopetoun, brought me into expenses, which, with all my economy, I have not yet rubbed off. Your disinterested friendship has made an impression which time cannot efface."

The only other letter which, so far as I can discover, Burns addressed to Clarke is one of the saddest he ever penned. It was written on the 26th of June, 1796, and the shadow of death is cast on every word. "My dear Clarke," wrote Burns, "still, still the victim of an affliction; were you to see the emaciated figure who now holds the pen to you, you would not know your old

friend. Whether I shall ever get about again is only known to Him, the Great Unknown, whose creature I am. Alas, Clarke, I begin to fear the worst. As to my individual self, I am tranquil—I would despise myself were I not; but Burns's poor widow, and half-a-dozen of his dear little ones helpless orphans! There I am weak as a woman's tear. Enough of this! 'tis half my disease. I duly received your last, enclosing the note. It came extremely in time, and I am much obliged to your punctuality. Again I must request you to do me the same kindness. Be so very good as *by return of post* to enclose me another note. I trust you can do it without much inconvenience, and it will seriously oblige me. If I must go I leave a few friends behind me, whom I shall regret while consciousness remains. I know I shall live in their remembrance. Adieu, dear Clarke. That I shall ever see you again is, I am afraid, highly improbable." The fear was realised. One month later Burns passed away.

It was during his residence in Dumfries that Burns formed his friendship with Clarke. Other two teachers who were at the same time included in his circle of friends were Thomas White and James Gray. Of White there is little to be said. He was an Englishman, having been born at Hexham, in Northumberland, and when Burns became acquainted with him he was teaching in Dumfries Academy. The Poet had a great regard for White, who was one of the twenty choice friends among whom he distributed copies of the new and enlarged edition of the poems published in 1793. Writing to Creech, asking for the volumes to be sent to him, Burns said that he meant "to present them among a few great folk whom I respect, and a few little folk whom I love." The copy presented to White bore this inscription:—"To Mr Thomas White, teacher, Dumfries Academy. Mr White will accept of this book as a mark of the most sincere friendship from a man who has ever had too much respect for his friends and too much contempt for his enemies to flatter either the one or the other.—The Author." White died in 1825, at the age of 67. He was buried in St. Michael's Churchyard, and on his tombstone he is described as "a profound and original mathematician, who

taught in the Dumfries Academy for forty years, and instructed hundreds to revere his memory."

James Gray claims a fuller notice. As he was one of the last, so he was also one of the best friends of Burns—perhaps the best, because, as Professor Wilson said, he "was the first who, independently of every other argument, proved the impossibility of the charges that had too long been suffered to circulate, without refutation, against Burns's character and conduct during his later years by pointing to these." Wilson was referring to the songs—"almost daily effusions of his clear and unclouded genius." Professor Wilson did not write this without knowledge of the defender of the Poet. He was intimately acquainted with Gray, whom he described as "a man of poetical taste and feeling, and a scholar, on all accounts well entitled to speak of the character of Burns; and, though there were no bounds to his enthusiasm when poets and poetry were the themes of his discourse, he was a worshipper of truth, and rightly believed that it was best seen in the light of love and admiration."

Gray was the master of Dumfries Academy, and taught at least one of the children of Burns. He was afterwards master of the High School, Edinburgh, and latterly became a chaplain in the Hon. East India Company's service, surviving till 1830. His admirable defence of the Poet was contained in a letter to Gilbert Burns, and was printed in Peterkin's edition of the poems published in 1815. The letter, which is a review of the character and conduct of Burns, as observed by Gray, who had a keen eye and great power in the expression of his thought, is too long to quote. But a few passages at least must be reproduced. "He seemed to me," said Gray, "to frequent convivial parties from the same feelings with which he wrote poetry, because nature had eminently qualified him to shine there, and he never on any occasion indulged in solitary drinking. He was always the living spirit of the company, and, by the communications of his genius, seemed to animate every one present with a portion of his own fire. He indulged in the sally of wit and humour, of striking originality, and sometimes of bitter sarcasm, but always free from

the least taste of grossness. I was from the commencement of my acquaintance with him struck with his aversion to all kinds of indelicacy, and have seen him dazzle and delight a party for hours together by the brilliancy and rapidity of his flashes, without even an allusion that could give offence to vestal purity. . . . The men with whom he associated were not of the lowest order. He numbered among his intimate friends many of the most respectable inhabitants of Dumfries and the vicinity. Several of those were attached to him by ties that the hand of calumny, busy as it was, could never snap asunder. They admired the Poet for his genius, and loved the man for the candour, generosity, and kindness of his nature. His early friends clung to him through good report and bad report with a zeal and fidelity that prove their disbelief of the malicious stories circulated to his disadvantage. Among them were some of the most distinguished characters in this country, and not a few females, eminent for delicacy, taste, and genius. They were proud of his friendship, and cherished him to the last moment of his existence. He was endeared to them even by his misfortunes, and still they retain for his memory that affectionate veneration which virtue alone inspires."

Gray laid great stress on the tenderness of Burns as a father, and the care which he took of the education of his children, pointing to these as sufficient evidence to refute a host of slanders uttered against him. We will all, I think, agree with this evidence. A man who is right at his own fireside is not likely to be far wrong in the wider circle of public life. Let us be thankful for James Gray.

It is often said that a man is known by his friends. That is true, and our estimate of Burns will not suffer by what we know of his association with the dominies.

ANDREW M'CALLUM.

SCOTTISH HISTORY CHAIR.

ANOTHER ASPECT OF THE QUESTION.

TO the ordinary Scotsman it may seem, on a first thought, that no pleading is necessary to ensure success for a project so patriotic as the founding of a Chair of Scottish History and Literature in any of the national Universities. The scheme is so reasonable that criticism of it seems out of place, and may even be regarded as factious or captious. Yet it has come, and in a spirit and with a strength which cannot be ignored. Now, there is always advantage in comprehending the position of adverse critics, and especially because in this matter opponents have something of weight to say for themselves. They know that prior to the Scottish Universities Act of 1889, and to the Ordinances of the Commissioners following upon it, there was very little teaching of history in the universities. Greek and Roman history were taught in the Greek and Latin classes, and Church history was taught to students of divinity, but British history might or might not be touched upon in classes of English literature; yet, save for one Chair in Edinburgh University, no provision was made for teaching general history or national history, and thus young men who were to be the teachers of their countrymen were left to acquire such knowledge as best they could.

The Chair in the University of Edinburgh was originally one of Universal Civil History and of Greek and Roman Antiquities. Attendance was optional, and in the days when Sir William Hamilton was colleague and successor to William Fraser Tytler the salary of one hundred pounds was payable from a local duty on beer. After 1862 the Chair was one of Constitutional Law

and Constitutional History. St. Andrews enjoyed the unique distinction of having a Chair of Civil and Natural History, one occupant of which delivered practically no lectures for a quarter of a century.

After the Act of 1889 all the universities had special teachers of history. By the new ordinances Glasgow and Edinburgh had Chairs of History. Aberdeen and St. Andrews had to be content with lectureships. Aberdeen has now a Fletcher Chair, but St. Andrews is still waiting for some patriot to take away the reproach from her University organisation.

By the Commissioners history was placed in the modern group of subjects for the M.A. degree. It may be studied as an alternative to English or other modern language. British history is the second subject in the English Honours School, and there is also a History Honours School. Special study of Scottish history has thus no place except as subordinate to English history and general European history. Edinburgh has been able to lead the way in patriotic study through the beneficence of Sir William Fraser, who founded a Chair of Ancient Scottish History and Palæography. There has thus been great positive gain. Historical study has received fairly adequate recognition in the curricula of Arts graduates, and interest in the subject has grown steadily. Knowing these things, many who are interested in university development naturally deprecate what looks like a dissipation of energy and the mere addition of one member to the Faculty of Arts, who will provide one more option for the M.A. degree. Now the perplexing variety of paths to Arts graduation has already made a Scottish M.A. degree something very difficult to estimate apart from exact statement of the subjects which the individual graduate has studied. Besides, the importance of a knowledge of general history in a well thought-out scheme of culture is so great that any alteration of the balance of teaching power, which may substitute a restricted for a wider discipline, stands apparently condemned as illiberal and narrowing. The history of Scotland is but a fragment of the world's story. Time is short. Why spend precious months in detailed considera-

tion of it? When to these reflections there is added the contention that study of their national history by persons so perfervid as Scotsmen for the most part are is likely to lead to deepening of prejudice and resuscitation of old feuds, it might appear that in the interests of academic tranquility and unemotional research a subject so lined and scored with conflict had better be left to the solitary student or the Patriotic Association. All these objections —and they raise points of no slight interest—may fairly well be disposed of. All the Scottish university authorities are at this moment drafting new rules for Arts graduation, and they may be trusted to group studies so as to give all aspirants the possibility of rational culture. There is no reason why the study of history on a larger scale should suffer because very special attention is paid to national history. Any competent professor will say what is needed upon the relation of Scottish history to general history. He will know that while he must deal with Scottish history primarily he cannot make Scottish annals intelligible by isolated or prejudiced treatment. He will therefore place his record in its own corner of the world's charter-chest. Indeed, so far from prejudicing the study of general history, there is every probability that he will so stir the spirit of his students and so rouse their historical curiosity by his efforts that they will widen their interest and, by consequence, their investigation.

Under the present rules for Arts graduation no student is bound to apply himself to any but a small portion of history which comes in as part of his Latin, or Greek, or French, or German degree work. If, as is perfectly possible, he selects Latin and English as language subjects, he may leave the university with a degree, and yet, so far as his curriculum has gone, he may have had no instruction in, and he may have no knowledge of, any history except the history of Rome; and this acquaintance with Roman history is severely subordinate to a knowledge of the Latin language and of Latin literature. Now, what university alumni want is not merely, or chiefly, that they obtain degrees, but that they have a full and complex culture. Some handling of present anomalies in historical study is therefore necessary. And surely

it is an anomaly that young Scotsmen, at the formative age, should have such limited opportunity for gaining intimate acquaintance with their country's past. Of course there are many histories, and the opportunities of all other readers are theirs also. But they would certainly have a far fuller and better training if they studied Scottish history and its sources under the guidance of a scholar who had made it the work of his life. To the cosmopolitan, Scotland is a little country with a slight story, which has a few highly-coloured passages. To an Englishman, if he has the prepossession natural to his countrymen, it is the home of a turbulent and somewhat unreasonable people, who preferred poverty and independence to benevolent assimilation by wealthy and powerful neighbours, who were eager to bestow the gift of a higher civilisation and a stable rule. To the Scotsman, unless he have no imagination, the history of his own country and her fortunes cannot possibly be a little thing. It is the portion of the world-story which touches him at every point, and which has made him and his contemporaries what they are. It looms large because it is near, and it ought to be near, because in it lies the spring of all his chief energies. The spirit of the present has its natural nurture in the record of the past. For "people will not look forward to posterity who never look backward to their ancestors." As for the controversial elements inseparable from discussion of Scottish history, one is forced to ask what university teacher does not raise keenly controverted, indeed fundamental, questions? The teachers of ethics, metaphysics, theology, and political economy constantly discuss earnestly-debated questions, yet the peace of the country is not unduly disturbed, and its intellectual development advances. If the young Scot can bear, without injury, investigation of the implications of right and wrong, good and evil, appearance and reality, Free Trade and Protection, of man's nature and God's existence, he may surely be subjected to the strain of inquiring into English claims to supremacy over Scotland, into the origin and effects of the long alliance with France, into the policy of Henry VIII. toward Scotland, and the dourness of Presbyterian and the pliability of Episcopal

Churchmen, to say nothing of Jacobite risings and Cumberland brutalities. Present social and political conflicts may be too closely read into the annals of an earlier time, and some heat may be engendered. But there is a counterbalancing consideration. Contemporary problems are only intelligible in the light of the past, and we must accept the shadow, such as it is, for the light. Passion and prejudice will exist, whether enlightenment be sought or not, and it is surely the better way to give light as fully and freely as possible that passion may be purified and directed and prejudice abated or dispelled.

The problem of teaching Scottish history in the universities, however, is not merely one relating to the wider culture of Scottish graduates. It is indirectly the concern of the whole Scottish nation. According to the equipment of the teachers the people will be taught. Few things, indeed, have been more striking than the popular interest in national history in spite of the imperfection of the teaching available in the past. The Scottish peasantry and commonalty generally have owed not a little of their intellectual robustness and manly spirit to their interest in the annals of Scotland, to their fair knowledge of them considering their meagre opportunities, and to their proper pride in belonging to a nation which had such a record. Perhaps certain figures have fascinated them, or revolted them too strongly, and have fostered emotions which cosmopolitans would gladly see quenched—Wallace, who left his name to be found

> "Like a wild flower
> All over his dear country"—

Bruce, the Good Lord James (a very different person from the Good Regent), Sir David Lindsay, John Knox, Queen Mary, Bloody Mackenzie, and Robert Burns. Any people, however stolid, must benefit from good teaching in their native history. Our people are by no means stolid, but have shown keen interest in it, and an appreciation of it which deserves cultivation. Miss Strickland, in her *Life of Queen Mary*, tells a story which is to the point on this head :—"Here it is impossible to refrain from recording a pleasing trait of generous feeling displayed by David

Marshall, tacksman of the Lochleven fishery, cooper, and proprietor of the boats employed in transporting visitors to and from Lochleven Castle; for, after he and two men had rowed me and my party to the island, battled with a rough ground-swell which made our passage very laborious, tarried my leisure while making local investigations and notes for this painful chapter of Mary Stuart's biography, and had safely landed me on the shores of Kinross, he stoutly refused to accept his five-shilling fee, or any reward whatever, because he had gathered from the conversation that I was writing Queen Mary's life. It was in vain that my friend's coachman took him aside, and, producing a Scotch one-pound note, told him that his lady, Mrs Skene of Pitlour, with whom I was on a visit, had given private orders to him to pay all expenses. David Marshall put the proffered guerdon aside with a determined air, saying:—'No, I will not take money for this job from anyone; I must be permitted to have the pleasure of rendering this little service to that lady for Queen Mary's sake.'"

In Scotland there is scarcely a district where the peasantry do not interest themselves in

> "Old, unhappy, far-off things
> And battles long ago."

All who know their distinctive characteristics think them worth preserving, and worth making the most of by the right kind of appeal to the ideal side of their nature. There is prose enough and more than enough of bare matter-of-fact knowledge in present-day education; a wise strengthening of the springs of emotion by accurate delineation and interpretation of the national past can do nothing but good.

What is thus sought for Scotland has been accomplished in many other lands. On the Continent of Europe there is a strange diversity of interest in the several countries. A casual glance at *Minerva: The Year-book of the Learned World*, will give the curious reader some striking information on this and on many other points. Switzerland and Russia lead the way. Basel and Lausanne have each an extraordinary professor of modern Swiss history. Bern, Freiburg, and Geneva have ordinary professors,

while Zurich has both an ordinary and an extraordinary professor of this subject. The University of St. Petersburg has one professor and two privat-docenten, who lecture on Russian history, and an additional privat-docent who lectures on the history of the Slav peoples. Moscow, as becomes the ancient capital, has one emeritus professor, one ordinary professor, and seven privat-docenten, who lecture on Russian history, or on the history of Russia, for they make a distinction; while at Charkow there are two professors and one privat-docent. Holland, where somehow one looked for better things, has but one professor of Dutch history, and he lectures at Leiden. Hungarian history is taught at Klausenburg, Bohemian history at Prague, Spanish history at Salamanca, and Japanese history at Tokio. Germany and France are not so far in advance as might have been expected. In the University of Paris there is a professor who deals with the French Revolution, and there are several professors of modern history, but there is no special professor of French history, nor is there of German history at Berlin. At Toulouse there is a professor of the history of Southern France, and of Rhenish history at Bonn. The United States of America, which have taken successfully so many new departures, have not overlooked the importance of national history as a medium of education, although even there there are anomalies. Ann Arbor is better equipped than Baltimore. Harvard gives teaching in American archæology and ethnology, but not in American history; Columbia University (New York) is in the same condemnation, while the University of Pennsylvania has the same staff for this work as Ann Arbor. Yale has one professor, and Chicago has no fewer than two ordinary professors and one associate. There are thus models enough for deeds of foundation of Scottish History Chairs when the funds are forthcoming.

The linking of Scottish literature, especially historical literature, with Scottish history will be neither inappropriate nor burdensome. In Scottish poetry, through all its course, are to be found valuable documents illustrating the life and aspirations of the people. Indeed, few testimonies to the costliness of the long,

bitter struggle with England are half so striking as the scant quantity and, in the main, meagre quality of Scottish literature prior to the union of the Parliaments in comparison with the volume and richness, in all regions except the dramatic, throughout the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries.

To do full justice to the field of Scottish history, and to produce proper practical effect upon the life of the present, it were perhaps to be desired that endowments could be found for Chairs of Scottish History and Literature in Oxford and Cambridge as well as in the Scottish Universities. The people of England have many excellencies, and they are no longer the old enemy. They might, without loss, learn much more of Scotland and her history, and in this way attain to a comprehension of the fact that there is sometimes a good way of doing things which is not English at all. Not a little legislative blundering would never have occurred, and more international sympathy and comprehension would emerge in the persons of the cultured Englishmen who represent constituencies south of the Border, had they had fair opportunity of knowing thoroughly the mixed tragedy and comedy of the history of Scotland, and the all but unrelieved tragedy of the history of Ireland.

REV. PROFESSOR LAWSON,
St. Andrew's University.

PLEA FOR A CHAIR OF SCOTTISH HISTORY.

THE recent animated and interesting discussion on the teaching, or rather absence of teaching, of our national history in schools raises another and perhaps more vital question, namely, why is there no provision for the teaching of Scottish history in our University?

In the Universities of other countries, as a rule, abundant means are given for the education of the people in their national history. There the study of history generally begins at home. English history, diplomatic history, and palæography are, of

course, taught in Oxford and Cambridge. America has Chairs for American history and archæology. In Copenhagen there are Chairs for Northern history and Icelandic history. At Christiania there is a professorship of Northern archæology. Russian history is taught at St. Petersburg and Moscow, Belgian history at Brussels, Bohemian history at Prague, Austrian history at Vienna. At Buda-Pesth there is a Chair of Diplomatic and Heraldry. In Italy there is a professorship for even so local a subject as the topography of Rome. All the German Universities provide for mediæval as well as for modern German history and palæography. But they do these things best in France, where not only do the Universities deal with French history, mediæval French literature, and even French rhetoric, but the Ecole des Chartes outdistances the Universities by the completeness of its scientific equipment for the teaching of the national history on all its sides.

In Scotland, however, the teaching of Scottish history as a separate subject is confined to the capital. . . . Is there any reason why Glasgow should longer allow Edinburgh the monopoly of equipment for teaching our national history?

The main purposes of a University Chair—those at any rate in which it is differentiated from teaching in schools—are threefold. First, it must supply the necessary endowment for continuous and independent research on the part of the occupant, and for the ordinary teaching of the subject on a scientific standard. Second, it is meant to train the more serious students in methods of research. Third, it ought to be a meeting point of similar and cognate studies carried on outside. The first of these needs no special application in regard to history. As regards the second, the reading of old script, the interpretation of original documents and records, the explanation of legal technicalities, the translation of the vernacular of mediæval Latin and French are now necessary parts of the equipment of the scholar. But at present every student has to learn these things for himself. And, as regards the third, it is common knowledge that Glasgow already has in its midst several men who are devoted and recognised

students of some period, or of some particular subject, such as would naturally fall within the purview of Scottish history. For such scholars this Chair would be a centre of organisation, and the co-ordination of studies could scarcely fail of the same success here as it has had in England and France. Thus at last, subjecting the subject to the dry light of modern scientific criticism, we should get it raised above the provincial platform, and rescue it from being the plaything of national passion and sometimes parochial prejudice.

It would take too long even to run over the subjects calling for this co-ordinated study. The old Scottish constitution, the Church and its changes, the charters and chartularies, the economics of the mediæval as well as of the relatively modern period, the factors of race and geography, the coming of the Celt, the Lowlander, and the Norseman; the social, industrial, and political evolution; the archæology and the art, the literature of the vernacular, the warfare, the sea history, the organic development of tribal, royal, feudal, and burghal institutions; the old domestic life, the influence of England, the alliance with France, the European side of the Scot, the share of the Scot in European scholarship, the balance-sheet of the Unions of the Crowns and the Parliaments, the attempt to estimate the contribution of Scotland to the common stock of the Empire—the field is almost limitless.

I need not pretend that my interest in the matter is altogether unselfish. One of the subjects in the honours school for the higher degree in economic science is, of course, economic history. I am ashamed to say that all we can ask of our students is a profession of *English* economic history. Not only is there no teaching of the economic development of our country, but the subject actually has not been thought worthy of separate investigation and publication. And yet even the limited resources of our own University library show that there is a wealth of material only requiring to be put together.

PROFESSOR W. SMART,
Glasgow University.

SURVEY OF DISCUSSION.

THE proposal to raise a fund to found a Chair of Scottish History and cognate Literature in the University of Glasgow has met with general approval. Those that welcome it do so on various grounds, but there is a common measure of agreement that it is desirable and necessary. By consent, Glasgow is recognised as having a peculiar claim as a centre of Scottish study. It lies in a region whose associations include the dim legends of an irrecoverable past, the birth of the Scottish nation, and "the imperishable glory of beginning the heroic struggle for Scottish independence." Moreover, the surrounding country is rich in illustrations and memorials of our story, and something in the atmosphere seems to make it congenial to antiquaries, archæologists, and historians. Hence it is that, leaving all other considerations out of account, some are convinced that on grounds of pure scholarship the local University ought to have at least one professor whose business is to make a thorough study of the national history and literature, and whose function is to guide and instruct others in the same patriotic and delightful pursuit. . . . At this moment the question how to tackle the scientific investigation of the dialects of Scotland is being considered by the Scottish branch of an "English" Association. To any disposed to cavil at the suggestion that the Universities should he strengthened by the addition of specialists in Scottish studies the question may be put, "Where are the members of the Association to turn for experience and guidance?" The inevitable answer is a rebuke to our gross neglect of our national treasures.

The case for the proposed Chair might well be based on this single position, that a number of people interested in the studies proper to such a Chair are prepared to find the money required for securing that they shall receive something like adequate attention. They might well be content to say, and some would certainly object to add one word more, that they are concerned for the national reputation in a matter of pure scholarship. They

think it discreditable that in any Scottish University there should not be provision for the separate study of the language, literature, and history of Scotland. Put in this way the case for the proposed Chair is such that any scholar would wonder why the matter should be discussed further, except with regard to ways and means. . . .

It is urged that a course in Scottish History would have a narrowing and parochial effect. This is not in itself a very noteworthy proposition, but it has been put forward by several persons whose opinion deserves respectful treatment. In the first place, History is a purely optional subject; a student may become a graduate without having made any fuller study of History than is involved in a school curriculum or in preparation for the Universities' preliminary examinations. Moreover, it has been wholly left out of sight that, under the new scheme proposed by the Scotch Education Department, historical study is to be put on such a footing in the secondary schools that a student would carry into the Scottish History class an excellent knowledge of general history. In fact, the discussion from the University point of view has been vitiated throughout by forgetfulness of what the schools require and of what they aim at accomplishing. At this point persons interested may be reminded that, in the near future and in view of the stress to be laid on History in the schools, teachers of the subject will require to hold an Honours Degree or to have attended Honours classes in it. Further, school history is to include the History of Scotland; therefore, the Universities must be in a position to supply adequate instruction. On the practical side, therefore, the discussion of whether there should be a Chair of Scottish History is purely academic; there will be almost immediately a demand for it, and the real practical question is how to raise the money. . . . There is no good reason why a course in History should not consist of fifty lectures in General and other fifty in Scottish History, if any student prefers that. Under the proposed ordinance, a student taking the ordinary degree and giving special attention to History would be able to include a course in the History of Scotland. An

Honours Degree in History would of necessity include the national story. But while, in deference to some that see lions in the path, there has been indicated briefly how they may be scared away, all concerned should look ahead. Those are blind readers of the signs of the times who do not see how the development of the schools is bringing ever nearer a complete reorganisation of the University system. The time cannot be far distant when the existing method of building up graduation courses will be abandoned, and students will come up to study in a department of knowledge. History will then mean a group of courses in the various divisions of the subject, and will require a staff of professors, lecturers, and assistants. What is required meantime is substantial support to the Fund about to be opened. Subscribers may be assured that their efforts will achieve a desirable educational end and take away a reproach from our patriotism.

Action of Burns Clubs.

It seems singularly appropriate, and of good omen, that the first official act of the newly formed Glasgow and District Burns Clubs Association should have been a recommendation to all the bodies composing it to do everything in their power to afford moral and financial support to the proposed Scottish Chair of History and Historical Literature. Such a recommendation is entirely in the spirit of Burns himself, and one can well imagine the enthusiasm with which the Poet, with his robust and sensible patriotism, would have devoted himself to the furtherance of a plan which promised to be of so much utility to Scotland. Such a movement, also, gives a practical meaning to Burns Clubs, and more than justifies their existence. And the movement is appropriate also, not only as being a posthumous echo of Burns's own spirit, but as emanating from institutions whose object is the perpetual commemoration of the man whose genius is now universally recognised as the crown of Scottish literature. . . .

Dr WM. WALLACE,
Editor, "*Glasgow Herald.*"

CIRCULAR ISSUED BY THE BURNS FEDERATION

GLASGOW, *June, 1908.*

Chair of Scottish History and Literature.

DEAR SIR,

You are doubtless aware of the movement to establish a Chair of Scottish History and Literature in the University of Glasgow. The project for such a Chair has recently occasioned much interesting discussion, an epitome of which will be found in the pamphlet enclosed. Evidently there exists a strong public opinion that adequate provision should be made in our Universities for full and systematic instruction in a subject which lies so closely and vitally at the roots of national character and conduct. There is urgent necessity, not only that ordinary students, including prospective school teachers, should receive direction in the subject, but also that advanced students should have opportunities of technical training in the methods of original research.

To promote the enterprise a Scottish History and Literature Chair Committee, widely representative of national feeling and culture, has been formed, at a recent meeting of which it was resolved that various Scottish Associations should be invited to form local committees for procuring subscriptions. A subscription sheet is enclosed herewith, and as many additional sheets will be sent as you may require.

A sum of £20,000 would be necessary for the adequate endowment of a Chair. This sum can easily be raised if the scheme is everywhere taken up with energy. A considerable portion of the amount has already been promised, and Sir William Bilsland, Bart., Lord Provost of Glasgow, Principal MacAlister of Glasgow University, Sir John Ure Primrose, Bart., and other well-known public men, are actively interesting themselves on behalf of the scheme.

The committee earnestly commend the movement to your Association, and suggest that a special meeting of the members

should be called at an early date to consider it. In order that the Committee may know what amount of support the enterprise is likely to receive, it will be a favour if your Association will intimate to one of the joint-secretaries within the next three months the approximate amount of contributions.

Remittances should be sent to the honorary treasurers, Joseph Brockie, Esq., J.P., Royal Bank, Kilmarnock, or John S. Samuel, Esq., J.P., F.R.S.E., City Chambers, Glasgow.

Yours faithfully,

WILLIAM WALLACE, *Editor, "Glasgow Herald,"*
Chairman of Committee.

JAS. MARTIN,
163 West George Street, Glasgow.
THOMAS AMOS,
Sunnyside, Glebe Road, Kilmarnock.
} *Joint Secretaries.*

THE ONLY LIVING GRANDSON OF ROBERT BURNS.

JAMES GLENCAIRN THOMSON FUND.

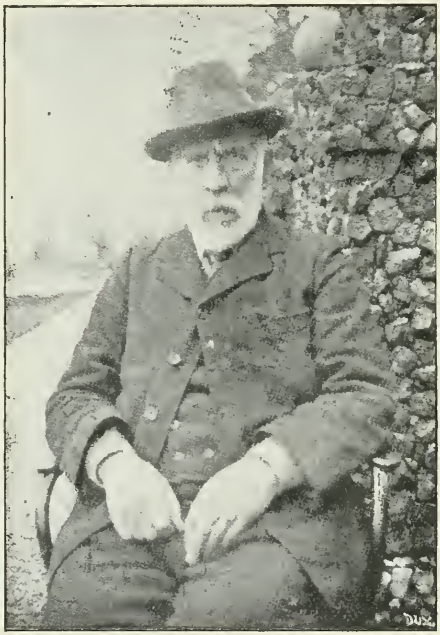
IN response to a letter to the papers from Mr John K. M'Dowall, a meeting was held in the Religious Institution Rooms, Buchanan Street, Glasgow, on Wednesday, 25th April, 1906. Sir John Ure Primrose, Bart., LL.D., presided. About thirty gentlemen attended.

The Chairman explained that Mr Thomson was the only surviving grandson of Robert Burns, the Poet, and but for the intervention of friends, who honoured the name and connection, Mr Thomson might suffer from want in his declining years, and he was perfectly confident there were persons sufficiently devoted who would never allow such a thing to occur. The facts having come to his knowledge through Mr M'Dowall, he agreed with that gentleman that the proper method was to bring a few gentlemen together who would constitute themselves a committee to raise a sum to ensure Mr Thomson's declining years being passed in at least moderate comfort. Mr J. Bruce Walker (Canadian Government Agent in Glasgow) moved, "That the meeting approve of the institution of a fund to provide an annuity in favour of Mr Thomson—and that a committee be appointed, with an executive of four gentlemen, including a secretary and treasurer." Speaking to the motion Mr Walker asked that some effort be made to make some restitution to the name and fame of, and some amends for the indifference shown to, Mr Thomson's grandfather by their forefathers years ago. Mr David Fortune,

J.P., in a few well-chosen remarks, seconded, and the resolution was unanimously adopted.

The following committee was then elected, viz. :—

General Committee—*Sir John Ure Primrose, Bart., LL.D., Chairman; Councillor Hugh Alexander, J.P.; Robert S. Allan, Esq., J.P.; Wm. Allan, Esq. (Rosebery Burns Club); Rev. Jas.



James Glencairn Thomson.

Barr, B.D.; Colonel R. J. Bennet, V.D.; Dr J. Wilson Cameron; J. M'Naught Campbell, Esq., F.Z.S., Provincial Grand Secretary; Robert Chalmers, Esq.; Councillor Frank I. Cohen; Robert Crawford, Esq., LL.D., D.L., J.P.; Thomas Devlin, Esq.; *David Fortune, Esq., J.P., F.S.S.; James Glen, Esq., M.A., B.L.; Joseph Graydon, Esq.; Councillor Jas. Henderson, J.P.; Andrew Hewat, Esq., J.P. (Sandyford Burns Club); J. B. Livingstone, Esq.; Henry F. Lowndes, Esq., B.L.; *Robert M'Callum, jun.,

Esq.; *John K. M'Dowall, Esq., J.P.; Tom M'Ewan, Esq., R.S.W.; Wm. M'Neill, Esq.; Wm. B. Paterson, Esq.; Michael Simons, Esq., D.L., J.P.: *Hugh B. Stewart, Esq. (Haggis Club); Bailie P. G. Stewart; Matthew Waddell, Esq.; J. Bruce Walker, Esq., Canadian Government Agent; Peter White, Esq. (Bridgeton Burns Club); Colonel J. B. Wilson, V.D., J.P. (Those marked * comprise the Executive Committee).

Messrs John K. M'Dowall and Robert M'Callum, jun., were appointed Hon. Joint Secretaries and Treasurers.

The Executive, who were given full powers, started work immediately, and, after securing the following list of patrons, issued the following appeal, viz. :—

"*Patrons*—William Bilsland, Esq., the Hon. the Lord Provost of Glasgow; J. G. A. Baird, Esq., Wellwood, Muirkirk; George N. Barnes, Esq., M.P., House of Commons, London; Andrew Carnegie, Esq., LL.D., Skibo Castle, Sutherlandshire; Archibald Coats, Esq., J.P., Paisley; Sir James Coats, Bart., of Auchendrane, Ayrshire; The Right Hon. Charles Scott Dickson, M.A., K.C., 22 Moray Place, Edinburgh; W. H. Dunlop, Esq., Doonside, Ayr; Provost Joseph J. Glover, Dumfries; William Jacks, Esq., LL.D., Crosslet, Dumbarton; James Kennedy, Esq., Doonholm, Ayr; William M'Killop, Esq., M.P., House of Commons, London; T. P. O'Connor, Esq., M.P., Oakley Lodge, Chelsea; A. A. Speirs, Esq., D.L., J.P., of Elderslie, Houston House, Renfrewshire, Provincial Grand Master; Sir Hugh Shaw-Stewart, Bart., D.L., J.P., Ardgowan; Sir A. M. Torrance, M.P., House of Commons, London; Harry Anderson Watt, Esq., M.P., House of Commons, London; T. M'Kinnon Wood, Esq., M.P., House of Commons, London.

"At a public meeting held in the Religious Institution Rooms, Glasgow, on 25th April, 1906, Sir John Ure Primrose Bart., LL.D. presiding, it was resolved to institute a fund in aid of Mr James Glencairn Thomson, the only surviving grandson of the Poet Robert Burns, and the above committee was formed to carry through the proposal. Seven years ago an appeal was made to the public on behalf of Mr Thomson, and the sum of £175

was raised. This, with about £100 of his own savings, has been his only income during the above period, and it is now exhausted. Mr Thomson is in his 78th year, and is well known to a great many—especially local—admirers of the Poet as a man of kindly and genial disposition, still able to sing with expression and spirit his grandfather's songs, and thoroughly conversant with all the shrewd comments on men and things which are to be found in the immortal poems. He is a Brother of the Masonic Craft, and is well known on Camphill Green (of which he is an original member) as a keen bowler.

"The Committee now earnestly appeal to admirers of Robert Burns, both at home and abroad, to aid them in this laudable object and duty, with every confidence. Subscriptions will be gratefully received and acknowledged by Mr Robert M'Callum, jun., 69 Union Street, Glasgow, Joint Secretary and Treasurer.—In name of the Committee,

JOHN URE PRIMROSE, Chairman.
JOHN K. M'DOWALL, } Hon. Joint Secretaries
ROBERT M'CALLUM, Jun., } and Treasurers.

"Glasgow, June, 1906."

Nearly 600 appeals were sent out. The subscription was kept open for eighteen months. It was specially asked that a collection should be made on behalf of the Fund at the Anniversary Banquets and Gatherings in January, 1907; but, unfortunately, the "Auld Brig Fund" cropped up, and its importance and extreme urgency overshadowed the Thomson Testimonial; but, notwithstanding the unfortunate circumstances, a very substantial sum was raised. At a meeting of the General Committee on 8th January, 1908, the Executive were, on the motion of Colonel Burnett, V.D., discharged, and thanked for their valuable labours, and Messrs David Fortune, J.P., J. K. M'Dowall, J.P., and Robert M'Callum, jun., were appointed trustees, with full powers.

[The foregoing was communicated by Mr M'Dowall, and we gladly give it a place in the *Chronicle*.—ED.]

THE NASMYTH-RAEBURN PORTRAIT OF ROBERT BURNS.

IN an iconography that has been declared by one who knew the subject to the ground to be "an enigma to experts and laymen," not the least interesting item is the Raeburn, or rather the Nasmyth-Raeburn, portrait of Robert Burns. The question as to whether Sir Henry Raeburn painted Burns from the life may be considered as settled, for no picture (or any record of one) is known in which the unmistakable features of the Poet and the equally unmistakable hand of the Painter can be recognised. It seems incredible that Burns, visiting Edinburgh from Mauchline and Ellisland and Dumfries, never met Raeburn, settled in George Street there from 1787, the year of the second edition of the "Poems." But there is no evidence to the contrary; and the loss is ours that the greatest Scots Poet was not portrayed (from the quick) on canvas by the greatest Scots painter, an artist who "need hardly vail his bonnet to the best that ever painted portraits."

There is no doubt, however, that Raeburn worked on the George Thomson replica of the 1787 bust-portrait of Burns by Alexander Nasmyth; it is said that he even "touched" the original itself, a quite possible proceeding when it is remembered that that portrait was in Edinburgh, in Alexander Cunningham's possession, for more than a decade—from 1796 till 1808 to be exact—and that it must have hung for a considerable time in Raeburn's studio. Also, there is contemporary documentary evidence to prove that Raeburn did execute a portrait of Burns, though not from the life; but only a portion of that evidence has hitherto been published. A recent discovery in the shape of

manuscript letters that tell the early history of the portrait serves to draw attention to the matter.

In 1802 Messrs Cadell and Davies, owners of the copyright of Burns's writings, and publishers of Dr James Currie's editions of the "Works of Robert Burns," proceeded against certain "piratical publishers," who, as they put it, had "invaded" their property. On the recommendation of Burns's friend and correspondent, Alexander Cunningham, they engaged as their agent in Scotland one Thomas Manners, a Writer to the Signet in Edinburgh. From a letter (unpublished) written by him to his clients in London we learn that Cadell and Davies had been desirous of obtaining a copy or a drawing of the bust portrait of Burns painted from the life by Alexander Nasmyth early in 1787, and at that time, as already stated, in Cunningham's possession. Writing from Edinburgh on June 29, 1802, to Cadell and Davies, Manners says :—

"I now understand that it is to the kind offices of my worthy and much respected friend, Mr Cunningham, I owe my having the honour of your employment in this Business. I trust my conduct will do no discredit to his friendly recommendation. In a late conversation with him he bid me say that if you are still desirous of having a Copy of the Bard's original picture in his possession, it would afford him pleasure to accommodate you, and with that view he will put it into the hands of our first artist here, Raeburn, who will do it every Justice."

Cadell and Davies's reply has not (so far as the writer knows) been preserved, but its nature may be gathered from an extract from a subsequent communication, dated August 23, 1802 (and not before printed), to them from Manners :—

"I took an early opportunity of delivering your Commands to my friend, Mr Cunningham, respecting Burns's picture, when he requested me to acquaint you that there is no person in this Country capable of making an accurate drawing of the Picture, that Raeburn alone is fit to do it Justice in painting a Copy of it, and that his Charge for such Copy will be 20 Guineas, which Mr Cunningham says you could dispose of for 40 Guineas at any

time. If you do not think Mr Raeburn's Charge too high, Mr Cunningham will be happy in furnishing him with the original, and transmit you the Copy when finished."

Caddell and Davies appear to have accepted Cunningham's suggestion, for on November 14, 1803, Raeburn himself informed them, in a letter that has never before been printed, that the portrait was completed :—

(1) *Henry Raeburn to Cadell and Davies.*

"Edinburgh, 14th November, 1803.

"Gentlemen,—According to your order, transmitted to me by Mr Cunningham, I have finished a copy of Burns the poet, from the original portrait painted by Mr Nasmyth. I have shown it to Mr Cunningham, who thinks it very like him, and I hope it will also meet with your approbation. I am ready to send it whenever you please to order me.

"Smacks leave this for London twice a week. I have frequently sent pictures by that mode of conveyance, and they always went safe.—I am, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

(Signed) "HENRY RAEBURN,"

On hearing from the publishers, Raeburn replied in a letter that has been printed, though with a wrong date, on more than one occasion :—

(2) *Henry Raeburn to Cadell and Davies.*

"York Place, Edinburgh, December 1, 1803.

"Gentlemen,—I inclose you a Receipt for a Case containing Burns's Portrait, and I have no doubt you will get it soon and safe, and I flatter myself with the hope of its meeting with your approbation than which, I assure you, nothing will give me more pleasure.

"I have twenty Guineas for a portrait the size of Burns's. I do not wish you to remit the money to me for, as I have money to pay in London, I shall, after receiving your permission, draw upon you for the amount.—I am, with much respect,

"Gentlemen, your most Obedient Servant,

(Signed) "HENRY RAEBURN."

The receipt also has been printed before; the bill has not:—

"Union Shipping Company's Office, Leith,
"November 30, 1803.

"Received on board the Union Shipping Company's Smack *Sprightly*, James Taylor, Master, for London, One Case, marked as per margin (Cadell and Davies, London), which I promise to deliver at Miller's Wharf, all and every the dangers and accidents of the seas and navigation of whatever nature or kind soever excepted.—For the Master,

(Signed) "I. RUNNISON."

"Edinburgh, 7th January, 1904.

"Gentlemen,—Ten days after sight please pay to Mr James Lyon or his order the sum of Twenty one pounds Stg. on my acct. (Signed) "HENRY RAEBURN.

"To Messrs Cadell & Davies,
"Strand,
"London.

"Accd.
"C. & D.
"Jany. 11, 1804."

Cadell and Davies appear to have been very well satisfied with the portrait if we may judge from Raeburn's letter of acknowledgment, which has never before been printed:—

(3) *Henry Raeburn to Cadell and Davies.*

"Edinburgh, 22nd February, 1804.

"Gentlemen,—Nothing could be more gratifying to me than the approbation you expressed of the copy I made for you of Robert Burns.

"I hope you will be equally pleased with the portrait I now send you by the orders of Mr Henry Mackenzie. It is shipped on board the *Glasgow*, Willm. Liburn, master, and I have no doubt you will receive it safe.—I am, respectfully, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

(Signed) "HENRY RAEBURN."

Not till sixteen years later do we again hear of this portrait of Burns painted by Raeburn. Where it hung during that period is matter of conjecture; not unlikely it formed part of the decoration of the publishing establishment at 141 Strand. On April 1, 1820, Cadell and Davies advertised, as "published this day," a new and improved edition of Currie's *Works of Robert Burns*—the eighth edition they called it, though really it was the ninth, for an eighth had been issued six years previously. This new edition was the revision of Currie's work that Cadell, in 1815, had asked Gilbert Burns to undertake, and that was then ready, after a period of nearly five years. Advertisements in *The Morning Chronicle* (London) and in Glasgow and Edinburgh newspapers of the month of April, 1820, state that the work is issued "with a new portrait;" the portrait itself, in the first of the four volumes of which the work consists, bears to be engraved by W. T. Fry after A. Nasmyth; from which it may be inferred that Raeburn, having but copied the Nasmyth, did not displace that painter's name on the engraved plate. Showing a face with a strong intellectual expression, the portrait as engraved is a decided and a welcome departure from the Beugo of 1787 and the Neagle-Beugo of 1800; so decided, indeed, that one is not surprised to find from a later advertisement (in *Poetical Works of Robert Burns*, vol. 3, published March, 1823) by Thomas Cadell—his partner, William Davies, having died in the interval—that the Gilbert Burns re-issue of Currie's work contains "A Portrait of the Author from an original Picture by Raeburn."

"Original" picture, however, as Raeburn himself said, it was not; the mistake was probably made by Thomas Cadell, and was a not unlikely one to have occurred at a distance of nearly twenty years. The portrait was not again used by Cadell; but it reappeared, engraved by H. Robinson, in those most beautiful books, the (first and second) Aldine editions of Burns's poetry, printed by the younger Whittingham and published by William Pickering in 1830 and 1839. Where it is now is unknown.

The three letters, with the receipt and the bill sent by Raeburn to Cadell and Davies, were formerly in the Burns collec-

tion of the late Mr William Craibe Angus, of Glasgow. At the sale of his library (December, 1902) they were purchased by Mr William Brown, bookseller, Edinburgh, from whom they passed to Mr Charles Fairfax Murray, of West Kensington, London. The writer has much pleasure in acknowledging Mr Fairfax Murray's kindness in very courteously giving permission to print all five documents.

J. C. EWING.

REPRODUCTION OF THE THOMSON-NASMYTH PORTRAIT.

IN our advertising columns will be found an announcement of the reproduction, in colours, of the Thomson-Nasmyth portrait, which was presented by the original owner, George Thomson, the musical correspondent of Burns, to the National Gallery, London. Of this portrait, the late Alex. S. Mackay, artist, Edinburgh, in an article on the portraiture of Burns, which appeared in *Chronicle* No. V. (1896), remarks:—"It is said to have been retouched by Raeburn, no doubt at Nasmyth's request. A marked difference here is that the eyes are more fully orbed, and have an upward gaze—the eyebrows being much more elevated, and the hair more extended at the back of the head, for what reason it is difficult to determine. The flexibility of the mouth, form of chin, and facial angle closely resemble the original." These remarks were occasioned by comparing the portrait in question with the original Nasmyth executed for the Beugo engraving, which appeared in the Edinburgh and London editions of the Poet (1787-1794), and the Auchendrane replica of the same, now the property of Lord Rosebery. The fullness of

the hair at the back of the head is also observable in the last-named, and this, perhaps, accounts for Mr Mackay's supposition that Raeburn's brush had also been passed over it. But there is not a tittle of evidence on record in support of such a contention. In the last number of the *Chronicle* (No. XVII., 1908) it was proved beyond a doubt by quotations from the correspondence of George Thomson, (*Life of George Thomson:* J. Cuthbert Hadden, 1898), that Raeburn did revise and retouch the Thomson replica—not at Nasmyth's request, as Mr Mackay surmises, but on the solicitation of Thomson himself, who expressly states that the retouching was done in his presence. There are variations of the lines of form and expression in the three Nasmyths which differentiate them even in the unskilful eye, and Mr Mackay, who was an eminent portrait-painter himself, has, out of the fulness of his professional knowledge, unerringly pointed out these distinctive variations in the Thomson replica. Raeburn could scarce detract from the work of Nasmyth; on the contrary, there is a concensus of opinion that he improved it, as did Walker and Cousins in their fine engraving of the original in the National Gallery, Edinburgh. Excellent and valuable as the early impressions of that engraving undoubtedly are, we feel constrained to say that the reproduction of the Thomson-Nasmyth, by Messrs Adam & Charles Black, Soho Square, London, now offered to the public on most reasonable terms, is destined to become a formidable rival to it as an artistic and authentic presentment of the Bard. It is, as we have said, a reproduction in colour, so faithful to the original as to confer upon it an altogether exceptional value in comparison with the best handiwork of the line engraver and stippler. Copies in oils of the Edinburgh Nasmyth are plentiful almost as blackberries, and for the least meritorious of them substantial prices are frequently asked. The Messrs Black, by the latest processes of colour-photography, have contrived to produce a likeness of Burns infinitely superior to the best of these and at a tithe of their cost. The size of the plate (16½in. by 13½in.) makes an imposing picture, which we can conscientiously recommend on its merits to

everyone desirous of possessing a unique and reliable portrait of Burns. The accompanying illustration is a black-and-white representation of the large coloured plate, reduced impressions of which, we observe, the publishers have also prepared for advertising purposes.

EDITOR.

CROMEK CONVICTED.

A REVIEW.

IN the *Burns Chronicle*, No. XIV. (1905), appeared an article on "The Interleaved *Scots Musical Museum* Manuscript," from the pen of Mr James C. Dick, banker, Newcastle, in which the reliability of Cromek as the editor of certain posthumous works of Burns is entirely discredited on evidence which leaves no room whatever for doubt. That article was the outcome of a correspondence between Mr Dick and the editor of the *Chronicle*, inspired by the publication of his *Songs of Robert Burns* (Henry Froude, 1903), or, more correctly, by the following note which appeared in the "Bibliography" prefixed to that volume:—

"The *Interleaved Museum* is a copy of the first four volumes of the *Scots Musical Museum*, which belonged to Robert Riddell, of Glenriddell, and in which Burns writes numerous notes (or strictures, as he called them) on songs, many of them his own. R. H. Cromek was permitted to examine the volumes by the owner, Eliza Bayley, and pages 187 to 306 of his *Reliques of Robert Burns* (1808) contains a transcript of the Notes, which are the most interesting part of the work. Every editor of Burns has relied implicitly on the accuracy of Cromek. Upon the recent discovery of the *Interleaved Museum*, after a sequestration of nearly a century, I have been permitted to collate it, with the following result:—Out of 173 Notes printed by Cromek only 127 are verbatim copies; eighteen are garbled or imperfect, of which four differ entirely from the MS., and other four are written partly by Burns and partly by Riddell; fourteen are written entirely by Riddell or other than Burns; lastly, fourteen are not in the MS. at all, and the leaves of four of these have been cut out and are now missing. On the other hand, seven short Notes by Burns are not printed, and in place of that on 'Auld Lang Syne' in *Reliques*, 282, which is a pure invention, there is a complete and hitherto unsuspected holograph copy of the verses of 'Auld Lang Syne,' which is given in this work.

"Numerous references and quotations in the following pages from the *Reliques* were set up in type before discovery. These have been since corrected from the MS., and so far as they go can be compared with Cromek's work. The four volumes of the *Interleaved Museum*, with the autograph of Robert Riddell, were left by Mrs Riddell to her niece, Eliza Bayley, of Manchester. A London bookseller acquired them for 'an old song,' and, with other Burns rarities, sold them in 1870 out of his catalogue to A. F. Nichols, who bought them on the express condition that neither his name nor address should be disclosed. After his death in February, 1902, the volumes passed into the possession of Miss Oakshott, who permitted me to examine them."

In the same volume of the *Chronicle*, in reviewing Mr Dick's scholarly volume, we made the following remarks :—

"Hitherto Cromek's authority has been unquestioned, but Mr Dick so shatters the traditional confidence reposed in him that the advent of his volume in the Burnsiana field is bound to mark a new epoch in Burns editing. How he has been enabled to prove the unreliability of Cromek is best told in his own words in his valuable contribution to the present issue of the *Chronicle*. He has found . . . . that the compiler of the *Reliques* has so garbled, confused, and adulterated the notes of the Poet as to place him on a lower editorial level than even Currie and Cunningham. To what extent he has carried his editorial tinkering can only be ascertained by the publication of the notes, *verbatim et literatim*, as they appear in the Glenriddell volumes, a task which Mr Dick, we understand, is willing to undertake should the necessary encouragement be forthcoming."

Our correspondence with Mr Dick elicited the fact that he was in possession of a *verbatim* copy of the Notes as they appear in the Glenriddell volumes, and we approached him, with consent of the Executive of the Federation, with a view to securing it for publication in the *Chronicle* as a Burns discovery of the first importance. The negotiations, however, fell through, it being Mr Dick's declared intention to issue it in book form under his own supervision. Shortly afterwards Mr Dick died, and we heard no more of it till his son informed us that his heirs had ventured upon the publication as a memento of their erudite and accomplished father. The volume was published by Henry Froude early in 1908, and forms such curious and instructive reading that it should be placed on the shelves of every Burns student as a signal example of the injustice and misrepresentation meted out to

the Poet by his early editors and biographers. Its practical value can be gauged by the following extract from the preface :—

"The notes in Cromek's *Reliques* (pp. 195-306) have had a free run of one hundred years. Nearly every published work of the songs of Burns during that period contains more or less of the notes. Hogg and Motherwell, Cunningham, Chambers, Scott-Douglas, and Henley incorporated them bodily into their editions of the Works of Burns, as none of those editors had seen the *Interleaved Museum*, nor had means to correct them."

It may be profitable at this point to give a description of the Glenriddell volumes, and to bring their history up to date. Burns was not introduced to Johnson till after the first volume of his *Museum* was published, which accounts for the want of Burns flavour observable in it. Of the succeeding four volumes Burns was practically the responsible editor, as their contents bear witness. To the second volume he contributed about forty songs, and he also wrote the preface. The third volume appeared in February, 1790, nearly one-half of its contents being contributed by Burns. The fourth volume, which was issued in August, 1792, contains about fifty of his songs. Burns died six months before the publication of the fifth volume, and Cromek unconsciously traps himself by ascribing to him the authorship of certain notes on its contents which appear in the Glenriddell copy, as if he were alive after the issue of that volume. The sixth volume was issued more than six years after the Poet's death. Nearly one-third of the songs which appear in its pages are the Poet's handiwork, the MSS. being in Johnson's possession all that time, and most of them finding their way, after his death, into the hands of private collectors. The bulk of the earlier MSS. are in the British Museum. Robert Riddell, of Glenriddell, had the first five volumes rebound with interleaved blank pages, on which Burns, at his request, wrote down what he knew or desired to say of the compositions in the printed text. Riddell also contributed what he knew, but, as we have seen, Burns did not live to see the fifth volume completed. At Riddell's death the volumes passed into the possession of his wife, who bequeathed them to her niece, Eliza Bayley, of Manchester, and it was while

they were in her hands that Cromek examined them. How Miss Bayley parted with them is not known, but this much is certain that John Salkeld, bookseller, London, sold them in 1871 to a book collector named A. F. Nichols, for £110. This bachelor bibliomaniac made it a condition of their purchase that his name and address were not to be revealed, and so they were lost sight of till his death, when they became the property of his housekeeper, Miss Oakshott, who granted Mr Dick access to them in October, 1902. In October, 1903, they were purchased by Mr Quaritch for £610 in Sotheby's auction rooms, Piccadilly, who subsequently sold them to Mr George C. Thomas, of Philadelphia, in whose possession they still remain, so far as we know.

After the publication of Dr Currie's edition in 1800, Cromek took upon himself the task of collecting and editing as many of the compositions of Burns which did not appear in that edition as he could lay his hands upon; and he is entitled to all credit for the diligence and energy with which he accomplished his task. That he was inspired by a commendable enthusiasm cannot be denied, but that it was of the disinterested sort is open to question. Cromek began life in a lawyer's office; was employed as an engraver in Manchester, and afterwards in London under Bartolozzi; made there the acquaintance of Blake and Stothard, artists; and was on intimate terms with Allan Cunningham. Blake accused him of collecting subscriptions for which he did not account, and Stothard also complained of being exploited by him for selfish ends. His correspondence proves that he tried to levy blackmail from Creech, Burns's Edinburgh publisher, by threatening to print certain letters bearing on his financial dealings with the Poet; and a letter is extant in which he counsels Cunningham to steal a Burns letter, then in the possession of Lady Nithsdale, if he could not procure it by honest means. A writer in the *Biographical Dictionary* thus sums him up:—

"Cromek was a shifty speculator who incurred the odium attaching to men of business who try to make money by the help of men of genius. The fact that he ruined himself in the attempt has not procured him pardon. Yet he might have behaved more liberally if he could have afforded to keep a conscience."

That is the substance of all the evidence available. Mr Dick concludes from it "that the moral sense of Cromek was not in an advanced state," and he leaves his readers to draw their own conclusions. Conscientious editing in those days was considered a "useless and inconvenient virtue," as the work of weak but well-meaning Dr Currie amply testifies, but the editorial vice of his day can neither explain nor excuse Cromek's deliberate falsifications and inventions under Burns's sign-manual in the *Reliques*, published in 1808, the pecuniary results of which were, as events proved, encouraging. Elated with his success he published two years later his *Scottish Songs*, with many additional "inventions" of the same kind as those in the *Reliques*; but in Allan Cunningham, who contributed the bulk of that volume, like Patie Roger, "oot o' his ain head," he met his master in literary invention and deception, and was most appropriately "hoist with his own petard." "Honest Allan" had a conscience of miraculous elasticity: Cromek could not afford to keep one of any kind; yet, till Mr Dick unearthed the skeleton, his veracity and good faith remained unquestioned for a hundred years. We need not point the moral. It only remains to undo the mischief which his want of conscience has done by epitomising in these pages the damning evidence which Mr Dick sets forth *in extenso* in the volume under review.

In the first part the author gives the pure text of Burns's holograph "Notes" as they appear in the original, now in the possession of Mr Thomas, of Philadelphia. In the second, the notes written by Riddell himself are printed separately. In the third, the missing leaves are described with their context, and three important notes by Cromek, credited to Burns as inscribed on the missing leaves, are given. The fourth part consists of spurious notes by Cromek, which are not in the original and never were there.

Beginning with the last as the most incriminating, they may be divided into three kinds—(a) those where Cromek was ignorant of the identity of the song, and either ignored what was written, invented the note, or copied it from some other source; (b) those

which are pure inventions; and (c) those upon songs which do not appear at all in the *Museum*. The most noteworthy example of the first kind is the long composite note on "Highland Laddie," which supersedes the short note written by Burns, and in which Cromek refers to the fifth volume of the *Museum*, published six months after the death of Burns, thus convicting himself of deliberate forgery. In "Auld Lang Syne" he falls into the same trap, and omits to give Burns's version of that song. In "Dainty Davie" he suppresses what Burns says, and instead recites the hoary-headed scandal about the Covenanting clergyman and the daughter of the Laird of Cherrytrees. The "Mill, Mill, O" may be taken as an example of the second kind, in which Cromek quotes eight lines of a song in the *Merry Muses*, apparently for the sake of quotation alone. In the third category are "The Shepherd's Complaint," "We ran and they ran," and "The Bob o' Dumblane," which are forgeries both in text and note.

The missing leaves are of the most consuming interest on account of their alleged contents. No fewer than seventeen are amissing, but Cromek prints only notes to three of the songs—"The Highland Lassie, O," "The Day Returns," and "The Bonie Banks of Ayr"—and these, it is needless to say, cannot now be verified. Neither can they meanwhile be rejected, notwithstanding the untrustworthiness of Cromek, which is now proved to the hilt. If any of these leaves are yet in existence, now is the time to produce them, notably, that from which Cromek presumably copied his note on "The Highland Lassie, O." We quote the said note in its entirety because of its bearing on the Highland Mary episode:—

"This was a composition of mine in very early life, before I was known at all in the world. My Highland lassie was a warm-hearted, charming young creature as ever blessed a man with generous love. After a pretty long tract of the most ardent reciprocal attachment we met by appointment, on the second Sunday of May, in a sequestered spot by the banks of Ayr, where we spent a day in taking a farewell before she should embark for the West Highlands to arrange matters among her friends for our projected change of life. At the close of Autumn following she crossed the sea to meet me at Greenock, where she had scarce landed when she was seized with a malignant

fever which hurried my dear girl to the grave in a few days, before I could even hear of her illness."

When we compare this note with the others which Burns has left upon the record, its unwonted confidential tone on a subject upon which he always betrayed the utmost reticence comes as a surprise. It contains more information about Highland Mary than the sum total of all else he has written concerning her—the date of their parting, their projected marriage, the place of her nativity, and the approximate date of her untimely death at Greenock. Hamilton Paul, Robert Chambers, Scott-Douglas, Henley—in short, all writers since Cromek, have founded upon this note as a record of undisputed and indisputable fact, vouched for by the signature and seal of Burns himself. What is to be said of it now, and the host of diverse theories which have been built upon it? Was it written by Burns in whole or in part, or did it take its present shape in the Cromek imagination by suggestion from some shorter and more guarded statement by Burns, supplemented by whatever gossip and rumour Cromek had himself collected? We cannot say, but this we unhesitatingly assert, that it lies under the gravest suspicion till the original is recovered, and that is an event which is not likely now to happen. As it stands, it is an unsubstantiated statement, and must be received as such till more proof of its genuineness is forthcoming. As for the other notes referred to, that attached to "The Bonie Banks of Ayr" looks like a plagiarism from the Poet's letter to Dr Moore, but to hazard guesses on what the missing leaves may contain can serve no good purpose.

Some of the notes written by Riddell do not appear in the *Reliques*, while in others Burns's initials are deliberately substituted for his. To accomplish this successfully Cromek resorted to garbling to make the stitches meet, as in "Down the Burn," where he omitted the words "by my father," to avoid suspicion; and again in "What will I do gin my Hoggie die?" where he altered Riddell's reference to Dr Walker, minister of Moffat, in 1772, to avoid an anachronism which would have convicted him. We learn also for the first time that Riddell, and not Burns, is

the author of the notes to "M'Pherson's Farewell," "The Gaberlunzie Man," and "Galloway Tam." Riddell's note on "Tam Glen" was rejected for the reason that it could not conveniently be manipulated without spoiling it.

It would be tedious to give all the details of the garbling and tinkering perpetrated by Cromek on the text of Burns's own notes. Suffice it to say that he considered none of them sacred, and not only took liberties with them but actually invented some of them and wrote them down where Burns himself had either nothing to say or preferred to say nothing. To the latter class belong the notes on "Saw ye nae my Peggy," "The Turnimspike," and "Auld Lang Syne." Instances of his garbling will be found in "The Lass of Livingston," in which he quotes four lines from the song in the *Merry Muses*; and also in "Johnie Cope," with regard to which he has misled and given infinite trouble to all the editors who have succeeded him.

For further enlightenment we refer our readers to the book itself.* The edition is limited to 255 copies, and the volume is well worth the money asked for it as the most valuable Burns-text corrective which has ever come under our notice.

EDITOR.

**Notes on Scottish Song by Robert Burns.* . . . Edited by James C. Dick. (London: Henry Froude, 1908).

SOME CENTENARY TRIBUTES TO BURNS.

THE enthusiastic and world-wide demonstration which took place fifty years ago was perhaps the most remarkable manifestation of a nation's pride in its favourite Bard that the world has ever seen. Throughout the whole English-speaking world—wherever a few patriotic Scots were to be found—the Centenary of Robert Burns was publicly celebrated in one form or another. Banquets, concerts, soirees, festivals, processions, reviews, were the order of the day. It is estimated that nearly nine hundred gatherings were held in various parts of the world. Of these about seven hundred were in Scotland alone—meetings being held from Whithorn to Lerwick. The principal Scottish gatherings were in Glasgow, Edinburgh, Ayr, and Dumfries. In each of the two cities named over a dozen well-attended gatherings were held, while in several other towns some half-dozen large meetings took place that evening. At least one of the assemblies in each of the principal towns was a gathering of artisans. In England some eighty meetings were held, and ten in Ireland. In the Colonies about fifty meetings took place, and over sixty in the United States of America. At Boston four poems, written in honour of Burns, were read—one by O. W. Holmes, two by J. Russell Lowell, and one by J. G. Whittier. At Chicago the proceedings of the day included a grand military review and procession of friendly societies. Some of the most enthusiastic gatherings were those held in the backwoods of Western Canada among groups of Scottish settlers. It would take a whole issue of the *Chronicle* to give an adequate retrospect of the generous tributes then paid to the memory of the poetry of Burns by speakers of various nationalities and of all professions and classes. The following

brief quotations from the speeches of some men of note may, however, give some indication of the oratory of the great Centenary celebrations :—

SCOTLAND.

Lord ARDMILLAN.—It is not alone to his humble birth, his rural toils, and his Scottish dialect, that the name of Burns owes its popular spell. The true power of the charm lies in *three* qualities characteristic alike of the man and of his poetry—sensibility, simplicity, and reality. He was the poet not of fiction, but of truth.—At Edinburgh.

Lord BROUGHAM.—After his great poetical genius there is nothing so remarkable in Burns's history as the extraordinary refinement of his sentiments, and even of his taste, from his earliest years, the effect certainly of his education having been greater than falls to the lot of the peasantry, even in Scotland.—Letter to Lord Ardmillan read at Edinburgh.

Lord NEAVES.—An unrivalled master of his art.—At Edinburgh.

Sheriff GORDON.—A nature on which the shadows of hypocrisy or duplicity never fell.—At Edinburgh.

Professor GEORGE WILSON.—Burns lives amongst us to-day to a far greater extent than many a man whose heart is still beating and his blood still flowing in his veins.—At Edinburgh.

Rev. ALEX. WALLACE, D.D.—He poured the rich melody of his genius over broad Scotland, because, like the birds, he could not but sing.—At Edinburgh.

DUNCAN MACLAREN, M.P.—In no circumstances of his life did he forget that self-respect to which he was entitled from his talents and genius.—At Edinburgh.

Sheriff STUART LOGAN.—Burns was specially gifted with some of those things which, in themselves the richest of God's bestowal, are bestowed most rarely.—At Dundee.

Rev. GEORGE GILFILLAN.—He loved the people, protested against their wrongs, sang their sorrows and joys, fanned the glow of their well-placed love, sympathised with their toils, and strove for their elevation.—At Dundee.

Lord PANMURE (Fox Maule Ramsay, afterwards Marquis of Dalhousie).—I am one of those who think there is no discredit in doing honour to the noble Poet.—At Brechin.

Dr FRANCIS ADAMS.—If he saw a fellow-creature an hungered, none could be more prompt to give him food ; if athirst, to give him drink ; or if

in prison, to minister to him. Is not this the true spirit of Christianity?—At Banchory.

Sir ARCHIBALD ALISON.—The child of Nature, he told us, like Homer or the Hebrew poet in the book of Job, what he saw and what he felt, uninfluenced by the greatness, unbought by the wealth, undeterred by the criticism of the world.—At Glasgow.

Lord HOUGHTON (then Mr Richard Monkton Milnes, M.P.).—The songs composed for the merriment of an obscure tavern club have set millions of tables singing with delight; the natural outpourings of his affections have become the stimulus and interpreter of youthful passion in ten thousand breasts; and the religious bickerings of a remote province have been made vocal with the most stirring tones of civil and religious liberty.—At Glasgow.

BLAUCHARD JERROLD.—Did he not give a new charm to purple heather? Did he not warm anew the national heart, and inspire voices to sing naturally? In his wake come troops of Scottish poets.—At Glasgow.

SAMUEL LOVER.—I must give expression to a feeling that has been struggling at my heart, . . . an overflow of joy at the glorious sight I have seen to-night of a nation's pride in her Poet.—At Glasgow.

Rev. Dr NORMAN MACLEOD.—There are two things which to me make Burns sufficiently memorable. One is his noble protest for the independence and dignity of humanity; another is his intense nationality—a noble sentiment, springing like a plant deeply rooted for ages in the soil, and bearing fruit which nourishes the manliest virtues of a people. Few men have done for any country in this respect what Burns has done for Scotland.—At Glasgow.

Rev. Dr CHARLES ROGERS.—The rich treasury of virtuous patriotism and ennobling sentiment of his songs, and many of his poems, shall be put forth by the printing-press of every future age.—At Glasgow.

JAMES HEDDERWICK, LL.D.—How poor now do the crowns of our dead kings, and the glory-wreaths of our departed conquerors, appear beside the holly with its "berries red" which Coila bound around his brow!—At Glasgow.

HENRY GLASSFORD BELL.—Show me a song-writer, from the days of Anacreon to the days of Béranger, who comes within a thousand miles of him?—At Glasgow.

HUGH MACDONALD.—Burns is the most loving of all the poets, and therefore the most lovable.—At Glasgow.

Colonel JAMES GLENCAIRN BURNS.—I humbly thank my God that He has spared me to see this glorious day, on which so many thousands in

almost every part of the globe are paying homage to the Bard of Scotia.—At Glasgow.

Sir JAMES FERGUSSON, Bart.—While he writes in strains which may bear comparison with the noblest poets of other lands, his words strike a chord of music in the breast of the most simple and unlettered.—At Ayr.

Professor AYTOUN.—Our greatest, our self-reared, our most popular Poet.—At Ayr.

Dr HATELY WADDELL.—Sappho lives in virtue of a single day. But what shall we say of him who, beside all other glorious doings, bequeathed some 260 of these imperishable breathings to his country and the world? He coined himself away in melody, and died of song.—At Alloway.

ROBERT LEIGHTON.—It is only when a volcanic man like Robert Burns upheaves the whole strata of society that the sterling granite of the primitive region is seen.—At Alloway.

A. B. TODD.—Burns is perhaps the greatest literary wonder that has ever appeared.—At Old Cumnock.

Dr W. A. F. BROWNE.—He has given us words in which to woo our brides, to vindicate our patriotism, to cheer the social hour, to cement our friendship—hymns to proclaim the love, and peace, and beauty of our homes. —At Dumfries.

THOMAS AIRD.—It is mainly by his marvellous faculty of marrying his songs to the divine old music of Scotland that he has won his unparalleled sovereignty over the human heart.—At Dumfries.

ENGLAND.

Sir JOHN FIFE.—Burns measured his fellow-countrymen, not by their titles, nor by their acres, but by their largeness of mind and heart.—At Newcastle.

DAVID ROSS, Editor of *Liverpool Chronicle*.—The three greatest lyric poets, I suppose, that ever existed—always excepting those of the Bible—were Pindar among the Greeks, Horace among the Romans, and Burns among ourselves.—At Liverpool.

Professor SCOTT, of Owen's College.—Burns . . . boasted . . . that he feared few men in being challenged to a day's ploughing, or reaping, or shearing, or any of the work that became his original position, and we feel it as he writes; he has the arm of a ploughman in his lines, and we are not ashamed that he makes us feel it.—At Manchester.

P. F. AITKEN (Grandson of Robert Aitken, Writer, Ayr, the friend and patron of Burns).—The soul of a sincere and great Poet speaks to your soul in

tones that thrill and vibrate through your whole being. This is true poetry, true eloquence.—At Bristol.

WILLIAM CHAMBERS.—The manner in which Burns helped the several members of his father's family, the extraordinary way in which he absolutely gave away, from sheer kindness, his poetical productions—literary property, as they would now be called—ought to shelter his name from a thousand malignities.—At London.

CHARLES KNIGHT.—Burns received the inestimable advantages of the parochial system of education which has long prevailed in Scotland. . . . If Burns had been born in England in the humble circumstances in which he was born in Scotland, the chances are that he would not have attained the eminence of being the greatest original mind of the eighteenth century.—At London.

IRELAND.

Rev. Dr M'COSH (afterwards President of Princeton College, U.S.A.).—Often have I met with associates of the Poet who told me how, in his better moods, Burns made the listener laugh at one moment and weep the moment after.—At Belfast.

Professor G. L. CRAIK,—Perhaps the Scotchmen, on the whole, of most world-wide renown are—George Buchanan, John Napier, Robert Burns, and Walter Scott ; . . . and of the four, Burns is perhaps the most famous. He is at least the most thoroughly and intensely Scotch. He has done the most for Scotland—most for her language, most for her people.—At Belfast.

Rev. Dr MONTGOMERY.—While God permits me life, and time, and strength, whenever any number of honest men propose to meet in honour of Robert Burns . . . and ask Henry Montgomery to attend, should he not be confined to a sick-bed he will be found at his post.—At Belfast.

Sir SAMUEL FERGUSON.—Ulysses did not conceive that skill in manual labour detracted in aught from his position as a prince and chieftain ; nor in the case of Burns has it aught detracted from his pre-eminence as a leader among the intellects of his country.—At Dublin.

THE COLONIES.

THOMAS D'ARCY M'GHEE.—Love was his inspiration—love inexhaustible—love universal—love divine.—At Montreal.

Sir DANIEL WILSON.—In poverty, in weary toil, in sorrow, and even in shame, Burns had still an eye for the beauty and the poetry of life ; and built up for himself a glorious monument out of these very materials of his suffering and his toil.—At Toronto

Rev. President M'Caub.—I admire him for his thorough independence of character, for his thorough conviction of the nobleness in men.—At Toronto.

Sir Henry Barkly (then Governor of Victoria).—Burns was a poet, not of one country, or of a generation, but a poet of all time.—At Melbourne.

Hon. Thomas M'Combie, M.L.C.—Honour to the Scotch peasant who struck off the fetters of ignorance which had kept the mind of his humbler countrymen enslaved! Honour to the great refiner of human feelings—the expounder of human sympathy! Honour to the disciple and expounder of Nature! A long remembrance to the favourite child of the Muses!—At Melbourne.

Admiral Sir Houston Stewart.—Burns was more than a poet; he was a moralist. . . . The lines entitled his "Epitaph," and his "Advice to a Young Friend," are full of wise reflections, and might well be kept in memory of any young man, to guide him through the path of life. Of this I am assured, that so long as I have taken the advice of the Poet, I have gone right—and when I had deviated from it, I found I had gone wrong.—At Barbadoes.

The United States of America.

W. Cullen Bryant.—Burns was great because God breathed into him, in greater measure than into other men, the spirit of that love which constitutes His own essence, and made him more than other men—a living soul. Burns was great by the greatness of his sympathies—sympathies acute and delicate, yet large, comprehensive, boundless.—At New York.

Rev. Henry Ward Beecher.—The nation which read Burns in the nursery could never have tyrants in the Parliament House. The men who drink at Burns's spring will be too sturdy for oppression, too contageous for power to tamper with, and with too much self-respect for blandishment and bribes.—At New York.

Professor Nairne.—To quote Burns in the British Parliament would call up a smile; to do so in our Senate or House of Representatives, would be nothing wonderful.—At New York.

Horace Greely.—"The Peasant Poet—great in what he has done for the unprivileged million—greater in what he has taught them to do for themselves."—Toast at New York.

Oliver Wendell Holmes.—

We love him, not for sweetest song,
Though never tone so tender;
We love him even in his wrong—
His wasteful self-surrender.

We praise him, not for gifts divine—
His Muse was born of woman;
His manhood breathes in every line—
Was ever heart more human?
—From a poem read at the Boston Celebration.

JAMES RUSSELL LOWELL.—

Dear Bard and Brother! let who may
Against thy faults be railing
(Though far, I pray, from us be they
That never had a failing!)
One toast I'll give, and that not long,
Which thou would'st pledge if present—
To him whose song, in nature strong,
Makes man of prince and peasant!
—From a poem read at the Boston Celebration.

JOHN GREENLEAF WHITTIER.—

To-day be every fault forgiven
Of him in whom we joy!
We take, with thanks, the gold of Heaven,
And leave the earth's alloy.
Be ours his music as of Spring,
His sweetness as of flowers,
The songs the Bard himself might sing
In holier ears than ours.
—From a poem read at the Boston Celebration.

RALPH WALDO EMERSON.—Not Latimer, not Luther, struck more telling blows against false theology than did this brave singer. The "Confession of Augsburg," the "Declaration of Independence," the French "Rights of Man," and the "Marsellaise" are not more weighty documents in the history of freedom than the songs of Burns. His satire has lost none of its edge. His musical arrows yet sing through the air. He is so substantially a reformer that I find his grand plain sense in close chain with the greatest masters—Rabelais, Shakespeare in comedy, Cervantes, Butler, and Burns.—At Boston.

Hon. JOHN P. KENNEDY.—His poetry was addressed to the future as well as to the firesides of the day in which he lived, and now, after years have passed away, nobility goes to his tomb to pay homage, while mankind meet, as on this evening, to celebrate his worth.—At Baltimore.

Ex-Governor M'COMAS.—Other poets, Prometheus-like, might steal from heaven its fire, and worship the airy figments of their own brain. Burns

worshipped the infinite that was in the humblest life around; he sung the divinity that was in fallen man; he clothed no angels in the forms of men. But, oh! with what tones of melody did he not sing the heaven that still lingers in the breast of woman!—At Chicago.

A. C. WHITE. *Glasgow Herald* Library.

LINES ON THE POET'S BIRTHDAY.

Auspicious day! A nation hails thy light,
And 'neath the lowly roofs—the lordly towers—
Both peer and peasant with glad heart unite
To spend in festive mirth thine evening hours:
The lyre awakes—the costly banquet's spread,
Old Scotia's thistle proudly waves his head!

But why this wintry day with plaudits hail,
When the rude blast sweeps o'er the sterile vale;
Why far and near, from Thames to Moray's strand,
This carnival of joy throughout the land?
Hark! from the mossy banks and flowery braes,
Where Doon in lone meandering beauty strays;
From Irvine's woods where loud the west wind sighs,
The choral voice of stream and sea replies.

Alas! too soon thy harp in silence hung,
Too soon the sorrowing winds thy requiem sung.
Yet, sadly bending o'er thine early tomb,
Where thy proud laurels, ever verdant, bloom,
Thy country hails each birthday that returns,
And as the centuries pass, still honours Burns!

—From a Centenary Ode, 1859.

CLUB NOTES.

[*COMMUNICATED.*]

ASSOCIATION OF BURNS CLUBS.

THE Glasgow and District Burns Club Association, formed late in 1907 for the purpose of creating greater harmony and producing more efficient work in local Burns circles, has had a very gratifying success.

Rev. JAMES FORREST, M.A.,
President.

J. JEFFREY HUNTER,
Secretary and Treasurer.

The headquarters of the Association are at the National Burns Club, 93 Douglas Street, Glasgow. Twenty-seven clubs in Glasgow and neighbourhood have joined, and arrangements are being made for a social evening of members and friends early in January.

The Association has done a great deal during the year in the way of providing lecturers and speakers to Burns Clubs, and this assistance has also been extended, when invited, to Clubs outwith the sphere of its operations—Fifeshire, Stirlingshire, Argyllshire, &c.

Among the matters discussed during the year have been the Auld Brig Fund and the Chair of Scottish History. This Association has, from the first, taken the view that the money not needed for the Auld Brig restoration should be handed over to the Scottish Chair or to some other worthy object, instead of being left in Ayr for the purpose of repairing the Brig in all time, and this view will probably be acted upon.

With regard to the Chair the work done has been purely educative. Explanations have been given and misconceptions cleared away. Several of

the Association's officials have been asked to explain the scheme to numerous Clubs. As yet little of a definite character has been done as regards collecting money, but there is no doubt that the scheme will be taken up heartily during the coming session by all interested in the Burns cult. Specially good work has been done by the Co-operative Club, which has circularised all the societies in their neighbourhood and has already secured a considerable number of subscriptions, and also by the Western Club, which is repeating the efforts it made on behalf of the Auld Brig.

The Association is taking active steps to secure the proper celebration of the Ter-Jubilee of the Poet in January. It asks Clubs to attend to the decoration of statues of the Poet in their district, and to the worthy celebration of the anniversary by an adequate rendering of the Poet's songs, noting with regret that the inanities of music halls frequently usurp the Poet's place.

The Association is endeavouring to arrange for a grand theatrical matinée towards the end of the season in aid of the Scottish Chair.

On 14th November a circular was issued to all Clubs in the district, dealing with above and other subjects.

Clubs in the district which have not yet joined are cordially invited to do so. The annual subscription from Clubs is only 2s 6d.

The office-bearers are as follows:—*President*, Rev. James Forrest, M.A. (Tam o' Shanter); *Vice-Presidents*, James Ballantyne (Carlton) and Alex. Pollock (Rosebery); *Secretary and Treasurer*, J. Jeffrey Hunter, Writer, 109 Bath Street, Glasgow (National); *Committee*, A. C. Alston (Rutherglen Cronies), Robert Smith (Old Kilpatrick), James Tudhope (Carlton), Donald M'Farlane (Baillieston), Arch. Clarke (Hamilton Mossgiel), P. M. Carrick (Clarinda), Provost Wilson (Haggis), J. Blair Smith (Co-operative), Alex. M'Kenzie (Tam o' Shanter).

ROSEBERY BURNS CLUB, GLASGOW.

The Club meets on Tuesdays, at 7.45, in Prince of Wales Restaurant (Messrs Ferguson & Forrester, Ltd.), Buchanan Street, Glasgow.

SYLLABUS—SESSION 1908-1909.

1908.

Oct. 13. Smoking Symposium—President's Address—Mr William C. Goldie.

,, 27. Lecture—Mr A. M. Williams, M.A., Vice-President, Chairman.

Nov. 3. Lecture, "The Travels of Burns" (Lime-light Views)—Mr A. M'Callum. Visit from Carlton Burns Club.

,, 4. Visit to Bridgeton Burns Club—President, Mr George H. Laird.

,, 17. Lecture, "Irish Wit and Scotch Humour" (A Whimsical Contrast) —Mr Walter Weir.

1908.

Dec. 1. Visit from Greenock Burns Club—President, Mr John Neil, M.A., J.P.

,, 15. Ladies' Night—Mr Peter Smith, Jr., Convener.

1909.

Jan. 11. Lecture, "The Interpretation of Scenery" (Lime-light Views)—Mr Fred Mort, M.A., B.Sc., F.R.G.S.

,, 26. Anniversary Dinner—Rev. John Hunter, D.D.

Feb. 2. Visit to Carlton Burns Club—President, Mr Andrew M'Lure.

,, 9. Lecture, "The Government of Scotland before 1707"—Mr A. Gemmell, M.A.

,, 23. Band of Hope Competition—Judges, Messrs Angus and Pollock.

Mar. 9. Lecture—Rev. William Dunlop.

,, 24. Gold Medal Competitive Concert—Mr A. Pollock, Convener.

,, 31. Lecture—Rev. James Forrest, M.A.

April 13. Tattie-an'-Herrin' Supper—Mr William C. Goldie, Chairman.

May 4. Annual Business Meeting.

The Executive request that members of the Club will endeavour to attend all meetings promptly at 7.45 p.m.

Competitions.

The Club holds senior and juvenile competitions in singing and reciting Scottish songs and poems during each session.

The juvenile competitions are in connection with Bands of Hope. Members provide silver medals and prizes. The Executive will endeavour to supply all applications from Bands of Hope with medals, and also, if desired, judges for competitions.

The Senior Competition.—Highly valuable gold medals are presented by members of the Club. The success which attended the concerts of previous years has been most encouraging, and the Executive spare no efforts to make each competition concert an advance on its predecessor.

All communications regarding juvenile or senior competitions should be addressed to the Convener of Competition Committee, Mr Alex. Pollock, 52 West Nile Street, Glasgow.

SUNDERLAND BURNS CLUB.

Eleventh Annual Report—April, 1908.

REPORT.

Since our association with the Federation we have been active to the extent of claiming their attention, an attention which resulted in the first Conference on this side of the border being held in Sunderland. This has been the central feature of our Club life this last year, for every member was conscious that a great honour was being conferred upon our town.

DINNER.

The Anniversary Dinner of 1908 was most successful. The company was not so large as formerly, but what we lacked in numbers was more than compensated for by the enthusiasm shown by those who were privileged to attend.

Mr J. Jeffrey Hunter, Glasgow, was the guest of the Club, and proposed the toast of the "Immortal Memory."

CONCERT.

The Annual Scottish Concert was held in the Victoria Hall, on Thursday, February 3rd, 1908.

This is now one of the events of the season, as was evidenced by the large gathering.

THE "CHRONICLE."

Here we have the very best articles on matters relating to Burns, his Works and influence, placed before you which cannot fail to interest the student of Burns. The genial editor, Mr D. M'Naught has given yeoman service in order to bring this work up to a high standard of excellence. May we again appeal to those members who have not yet taken this work to give it a trial, it will amply repay the modest shilling expended on its purchase.

SYLLABUS.

1907.

Oct. 2. President's Address—Mr W. H. Turner.
,, 16. "Burns in Edinburgh and Dumfries"—Mr G. Mackay.
Nov. 6. "Burns at Friars' Carse"—Mr D. Bain (Gateshead).
,, 20. "The Border Poet—Matthew Welsh"—Mr W. Jackson.
Dec. 4. "Down the Clyde to Rothesay"—Trinity Church Hall.
,, 18. "Burns and Byron—a contrast"—Rev. J. M. Little.

1908.

Jan. 15. "Robert Burns"—Mr W. Stevenson (Darlington).
,, 25. Anniversary Dinner—Mr J. Jeffrey Hunter (Glasgow).
Feb. 3. Scottish Concert, Victoria Hall.
,, 5. "James Boswell—Chief of Biographers"—Mr W. Ogilvie, S. Shields.
,, 19. "Some Scottish Authors and their Works"—Mr R. C. Lyness.
Mar. 4. "Beauty Spots of South-West Scotland"—Trinity Church Hall.
,, 18. "Scottish Wit and Humour"—Mr J. Mathieson.
April 1. Business Meeting (Consett).
May 6. Annual Meeting: Election of Officers.
Sept. 2. Business Meeting.

Never in our history have we had such an array of visitors who have entertained us with excellent papers, and to these gentlemen we express our thanks.

Our members have also given papers and lectures at Gateshead, Middlesbrough, and Bishop Auckland, a system of reciprocity which ought to be cultivated. A special feature this session was the introduction of questions and answers on matters historical, &c., one of which raised the debatable question of the birthplace of Robert the Bruce.

IN MEMORIAM.

We have to record the loss by death of our esteemed Past-President, Mr Robert Falconer, which took place at Falmouth on December 23rd, 1907.

He was a quiet unassuming conscientious man, who had always the welfare of the Club at heart, and was ever ready to give a helping hand where required. The sympathy of the members was conveyed to the sorrowing widow and family.

FEDERATION MEETING.

The event of the year has undoubtedly been the Annual Meeting of the Burns Federation, which was held here on Saturday, September 7th, 1907. A large number of delegates arrived on the Friday evening and were entertained at a Smoking Concert held in the Palatine Hotel.

On Saturday morning at 10.30 the delegates assembled in the Town Hall, where they were received by the Mayor (Coun. S. M. Swan). Ald. Burns briefly introduced the Mayor, who gave the delegates a hearty welcome to the town of Sunderland. David Murray, President of the Federation, made an eloquent reply. At the business meeting which followed, the Secretary's report showed that seven new clubs had joined the Federation, six of them hailed from the North of England, another evidence of the influence of the Sunderland Burns Club.

After luncheon the company drove to Marsden, via Cleadon and Harton, where an excellent tea was provided in the Grotto, the return journey being via Whitburn, reaching Sunderland shortly after six. This proved a most enjoyable part of the proceedings.

On Sunday evening the Rev. J. M. Little preached in Trinity Church a splendid and impressive sermon on the "The Religious Teaching of Robert Burns," at which a large number of delegates were present.

This brought to a termination the first meeting of the Federation held in England, and we trust that the effort put forth by our Club was such that it may induce them, should they receive the invitation from any other Club, to again invade English territory.

My report cannot close without some reference to the amount of work entailed upon me by reason of the Federation Meeting. I take it we are all banded for one common purpose. That being the root principle nothing more is needed, save a due appreciation of the services rendered to the Club by any

member ; even the Secretary is much more in evidence than he desires. I am deeply sensible of all the kind things that have been said and done for me, and I hope that we may go on firmly convinced that our purpose in life is to make the most of it as pleasantly and profitably as we can. I extend cordial greetings to every member of the Sunderland Burns Club.

M. Neilson, *Hon. Secretary.*

GREENOCK BURNS CLUB.

Club Meetings are held in Club Room, 36 Nicholson Street, at 8 p.m.

The work of the Club, as outlined in last year's syllabus, was carried out satisfactorily. Lectures were delivered by Messrs John Gray Thomson, F.E.I.S., Paisley, and Hugh Mackintosh. Two very enjoyable ladies' nights were held, when the members and their lady friends were entertained by Mr Walter Weir, Glasgow, and Mr Ernest Brown, who introduced a Glasgow concert party. Very successful smoking concerts took place on St. Andrew's Night and on the occasion of the Rosebery Club visit. The 106th Annual Celebration was held in the Tontine Hotel. Sir John Ure Primrose, Bart., ex-Lord-Provost of the City of Glasgow, proposed the "Immortal Memory" in most suitable terms. In September the members and lady friends journeyed to Dumfries, where a most enjoyable day was spent.

On the 25th January the "Immortal Memory" will be proposed by the Hon. President, Sir Donald MacAlister, Principal of Glasgow University.

SYLLABUS—Session 1908-9.

1908.

Oct. 29. Annual Meeting. Election of Office-bearers, &c.

Nov. 20. Ladies' Night. Concert Party—Introduced by Mr and Mrs Paterson Cross.

,, 30. St. Andrew's Festival.

Dec. 1. Visit to Rosebery Burns Club, Glasgow.

1909.

Jan. 8. Lecture, "Castles in the Air"—Rev. J. M'Kechnie.

,, 25. 107th Annual Celebration.

Feb. 19. Ladies' Night. Glasgow Concert Party—Introduced by Mr Ernest Brown.

Mar. 19. Lecture, "Victorian Stage—a Retrospect" (with Lantern Illustrations)—Mr Victor Meyer.

April 28. Quarterly Meeting.

NATIONAL BURNS CLUB, LIMITED.

REPORT.

The Annual General Meeting was held in the Club Rooms, 93 Douglas Street, on Thursday, 5th December, 1907, when Mr J. Jeffrey Hunter, President, occupied the chair.

James Ballantyne, President.

John Carmichael, Vice-President.

In the course of his remarks Mr Hunter referred to the work the Club had accomplished during his tenure of office, and particularly with regard to the steps taken in connection with the scheme for the preservation of the "Auld Brig o' Ayr" and the proposed foundation of a Chair of "Scottish History and Literature" in Glasgow University.

On demitting office the Chairman proposed as his successor Mr Jame Ballantyne, who was unanimously elected President for the ensuing year, while Mr John Carmichael was elected Vice-President.

The Secretary and Treasurer (Mr Martin) submitted the Directors' Annual Report and Treasurer's Financial Statement, which were adopted.

James Martin,
Secretary and Treasurer.

Rev. D. Graham of St. Gilbert's,
Pollokshields.

The Club continues to make steady progress, having a membership of 230, while the Club premises are conveniently situated and handsomely furnished and equipped.

The Library contains over 400 volumes of well-selected books of reference, principally relating to Scottish life, literature, and history, and to this collection new books are being added periodically.

The following is a copy of the syllabus for 1908-9 :—

1908.

Oct. 8. Opening Supper.

,, 22. Lecture by Rev. J. Forrest, M.A. Subject—"Literature and Life."

Nov. 5. Smoking Concert—arranged by the President.

,, 19. Lecture by D. M'Naught, Esq., Kilmaurs, Editor of the *Burns Chronicle*. Subject—"The Libel of *The Merry Muses*."

,, 30. St. Andrew's Day Supper.

Dec. 17. Lecture by Rev. David Graham, St. Gilbert's, Pollokshields. Subject—"Burns and Scottish Theology."

1909.

Jan. 14. Smoking Concert—arranged by Mr John R. Brotchie.

,, 28. Lecture by Rev. John Hunter, D.D., Trinity Church. Subject—"The Cult of Robert Burns."

Feb. 11. Smoking Concert—arranged by Mr George Fisher.

,, 25. Lecture by Rev. John Glasse, D.D., Edinburgh. Subject—"William Morris."

Mar. 11. Smoking Concert—arranged by Mr Alec Izat.

,, 25. Closing Supper.

The Directors give a hearty invitation to all Burnsians to apply for membership of the Club, which affords many privileges both social and literary, and the annual subscription is moderate, being only £1 1s for town and 10s 6d for country members.

CLARINDA BURNS CLUB.

Instituted 1899.

SYLLABUS—Session 1908-1909.

1908.

Oct. 12. "Ellisland : A Poet's Choice"—Mr R. Goodall,

Nov. 9. "Burns and Humanism"—Rev. James Forrest, M.A.

,, 23. Ladies' Night—Tea, &c. Harmony.

Dec. 14 "Song Singing"—Mr J. Russell.

1909.

Jany. 11 "English Minstrelsy"—Dr W. H. Addison. (Ladies invited.)

,, 25. Burns Anniversary.

Feb. 8. Ladies' Night. Tea, &c. Harmony. Impromptu Dance.

March 8. Annual Business Meeting.

James C. Alexander, *Secy.*

CARLTON BURNS CLUB

ANDREW MACLURE, President,
Carlton Burns Club.

WILLIAM J. STRAITON, Hon. Secy.,
Carlton Burns Club.

SYLLABUS—SESSION 1908-1909.

1908.

Oct. 6. Business Meeting.

Nov. 3. Joint Meeting with Rosebery Burns Club. Lecture, "The Travels of Burns" (with Lime-light Views)—Mr A. M'Callum.

Dec. 1. Harmony. Contributor, Mr David Gilmour.

1909.

Jan. 12. Harmony. Contributor, Mr R. Mackenzie.

,, 25. Anniversary Dinner. "Immortal Memory"—Rev. David Graham.

Feb. 2. Joint Meeting with Rosebery Burns Club. Lecture, "The Place of Romance in History"—Mr James Ballantyne.

Mar. 2. Smoking Concert.

April 6. Lecture, "Macbeth"—Mr William Moffat, M.A.

May — . Summer Outing.

WHITBURN BURNS CLUB.

The principal event was our annual competition confined to the children attending Whitburn Public School. This was a great success in every respect, as the children rendered their various songs and recitations in a creditable manner, which, no doubt, was due to the careful training given by Mr Paterson, the headmaster, and his excellent staff of teachers. Geo. S. MacKnight, Esq., hon. vice-president, occupied the chair, and was accompanied on the platform by the following gentlemen :—Provost Alex. Craig ; Rev. H. Glover ; Rev. J. Gibson ; Rev. Father M'Donna ; Dr Campbell, Whitburn ; and Mr Paterson, B.A. The judges were Mr Summerville and Mr Sutherland, both from Fauldhouse. The following were the successful competitors :—

Singing (senior)—1, Thomas Duncan ; 2, Alex. Sangster ; 3, Caroline Livingston. Reciting (senior)—1, Chrissie Mitchell ; 2, Minnie Tennent ; 3,

Agnes Provan. Singing (juvenile)—1, Ina Hunter ; 2, Jenny Aitkman ; 3, Agnes Greig. Reciting (juveniles)—1, Jenny Forrest ; 2, Bessie Sangster ; 3, Agnes Greig.

The awards gave every satisfaction to all present.

The Club held its Anniversary Dinner in the Cross Tavern on January 25th, when there was a good attendance. In the absence of President Mr Wm. MacKenzie the Vice-President occupied the chair. The greetings from the various kindred clubs were read by the secretary, after which the company sat down to a sumptuous supper, purveyed by Mrs Greig in splendid style. Song, toast, and sentiment followed, and all present were highly delighted with the proceedings.

The next important event was the annual excursion by brakes to the Falls of Clyde, which took place on July 20th, when a large number of members and friends took advantage of the day's outing, and all enjoyed themselves as the day was an ideal one. The usual monthly meetings were held during the winter months. The annual meeting took place in the Cross Tavern on Friday, 13th November.

It was agreed to have the children's competition in the Town Hall on January 15th, 1909.

OLD KILPATRICK BURNS CLUB.

COURSE OF LECTURES 1908-9.

1908.

Sept. 24. "The Humanism of Burns"—Rev. James Forrest, M.A., St. Vincent Church, Glasgow.

Oct. 29. "Lady Nairn and her Songs"—John Wilson, Esq., Secretary, National Song Society.

Nov. 19. "A Nicht wi' Burns"—Rev. Th. Cairncross, M.A., Bowling U.F. Church.

Dec. 22. Grand Concert in Gavinburn Public School. Children's Competition with successful competitors.

1909.

Jan. 14. "Tom Moore, the Irish Poet, Life and Songs" (Illustrated)—D. Drummond Cairns, Esq., of Glasgow.

Feb. 11. "The Antonine Walls or Roman Walls" (with Diagrams)—Archibald M'Donald, Esq., Public Librarian, Dumbarton.

Mar. 11. "Scottish Meccas" (with Lime-light Views)—Thomas G. Forbes, Esq., of Gavinburn Public School.

January 25th, 1909—Anniversary of the Bard.

The "Immortal Memory" will be proposed by Dr John Kerr, M.A., Headmaster of Allan Glen Public School, Glasgow, and other splendid speakers will follow.

Grand Singing and Recitation Competition under the auspices of the Old Kilpatrick Burns Club, confined to Boys and Girls in Old Kilpatrick and Bowling districts, was held in Gavinburn Public School, on Saturday, 28th November, 1908, at 3 p.m. Two gold medals in senior section; four silver medals in intermediate and junior sections; also valuable book prizes. Those selected have to compete at Grand Concert in Gavinburn School, on Tuesday evening, 22nd December, at 7.30 p.m. Programme:—Section I., for Boys and Girls from 10 to 12 years of age. Recitations—"Scots, wha' hae," "The Daisy," "The Wounded Hare." Songs—"Braw, Braw Lads," "Coming through the rye," "For the sake of somebody." Intermediate—Section II., for Boys and Girls from 12 to 14 years of age. Recitations—"A man's a man," "Address to the Haggis," "The Farmer's Salutation to his Auld Mare Maggie." Songs—"Wilt thou be my Dearie?" "Afton Water," "Tam Glen." Senior—Section III., for Boys and Girls from 14 to 16 years of age. Recitations—* "Remorse," "The Cottar's Saturday Night," "Man was made to mourn." Songs—* "Mary Morrison," "O Poortith Cauld," "My Nannie's Awa." Competent gentlemen will be the judges. Songs and recitations for competition will all be found in Robert Burns's Works. Any further information may be had from the secretary, Mr Robert Smith, Gateside, Old Kilpatrick.

Two recitations and two songs to be selected; but those marked with * must be taken.

SCOTTISH BURNS CLUB.

The Club is one of the few temperance Burns societies. It holds its meetings at 60 Union Street, Glasgow.

Last session many fine papers were given, and another excellent syllabus has been arranged for this winter.

A keen interest is taken by the Club in all matters pertaining to a better knowledge of Scottish literature.

In regard to the appeal on behalf of the Chair of Scottish History and Literature the Club subscribed £6 12s 6d at the anniversary dinner last January, which sum was duly transmitted to Mr Brockie.

SYLLABUS—1908-9.

1908.

Oct. 1. "One Hour with Scott"—Mr John Wilson ("The Scottish Patriot").

Nov. 5. "William Dunbar"—Dr James Devon.

Dec. 3. "Irish Wit and Scottish Humour"—Mr Walter Weir.

,, 17. Progressive Whist.

1909.

Jan. 7. "Scottish Songs of Home and Affection"—Mr Wm. H. Murray, F.E.I.S.

,, 22. "The Immortal Memory"—Sir Samuel Chisholm, Bart., LL.D.

Feb. 4. "Edgar Allan Poe"—Hon. J. N. M'Cunn (American Consul).

,, 18. Ladies' Night.

Mar. 4. "Burns and Modern Thought"—Mr Wm. C. M'Bain, J.P.

April 1. Annual General Meeting.

BAILLIESTON.

SYLLABUS, 1908-9.—August, Annual Business Meeting; November, Tatties and Herrin'; January, Anniversary Supper; March, Members' Verse Night; April, Paper and Song; May, Visitor's Night; June, Annual Pic-nic.

KINNING PARK BURNS CLUB.

Founded 1881. Federated 1907.

SYLLABUS.

1908.

Sept. 9. Musical Evening.

Oct. 14. Paper—Ex-Bailie Wm. Thomson.

Nov. 11. "A Drive Through Scotland"—Colin Young, Esq. (Sandyford Burns Club).

,, 18. Children's Competition—Kinning Park Town Hall.

Dec. 9. Lantern Lecture: "Burns Country"—Dr Hugh Kelly.

1909.

Jan. 13. "Burns and the Deil"—John Russell, Esq.

,, 25. Annual Supper—Capt. Gilmour, Jr.

Feb. 10. Readings: "Burns"—Wm. Buchanan, Esq.

Mar. 10. Annual Meeting.

THOMAS DEANS, *Secy.*

DARLINGTON BURNS ASSOCIATION.

Affiliated to Burns Federation.

SYLLABUS.

1908.

Oct. 8. Annual Business Meeting.

,, 23. Third Annual Scottish Concert in Assembly Hall.

Nov. 25. Lecture: "Scottish Song and Song Writers" (with musical illustrations)—Miss Furness (of Hawick, N.B.).

Dec. 18. Fourth Social Gathering in Mechanics' Institute.

1909.

Jan. 13. Lecture: "A Tour in the Land of Burns" (illustrated with lantern views and songs)—Mr W. H. Turner (of Sunderland), Vice-President of Burns Federation.

,, 22. Third Anniversary Dinner: Proposer of "The Immortal Memory"—J. Hyslop Bell, Esq.

Feb. 2. Business and Harmony Meeting.

,, 19. Lecture—Mr John Henderson.

Mar. 11. Lecture: "The Scottish Precentor (with musical illustrations)—Mr T. Henderson, Mus. Bac.

,, 24. Lecture: "The Continental Scotland" (illustrated by lime-light views)—Mr Galloway Kyle.

Apr. 6. Jacobite Night: Song and Story—Arranged by Geo. Lawson.

Summer Outing.

THE NOTTINGHAM SCOTTISH ASSOCIATION.

REPORT.

In presenting the Sixth Annual Report the Council have pleasure in stating that the membership is 204, made up as follows:—

Ordinary Members	102
Lady and Family Members	88
Country Members	14

The summer outing to Ollerton was, in point of numbers, one of the most successful that has been held. Seventy members and friends, accompanied by the society's piper, left Nottingham and were joined at Ollerton by an even larger number from the Sheffield Caledonian Society. Sports were held, and a cricket match between the two societies was won by "oor ainsels."

The Ordinary Meetings of the Association have been held in the Mechanics' Institution, and, though in some cases members have not turned out in full force, the meetings generally have been well attended and have proved most enjoyable. The Council take this opportunity of again conveying the thanks

of the Association to the many ladies and gentlemen who kindly gave their services in connection with the lectures and musical entertainments.

We are particularly pleased that the St. Andrew's night concert was such a great success; this being our first attempt at a concert on so large a scale, the expenses have been heavier than they will be, we hope, on future occasions. As an entertainment we are sure it was greatly appreciated. Your Council were fortunate in being able to secure the services of the famous Glasgow Select Choir, the Strathspey King (Mr J. Scott Skinner) and pipers and dancer of H.M. Scots Guards.

The Burns Anniversary dinner was again an enjoyable function, when about 80 members and friends sat down, under the chairmanship of the President (Mr W. R. Hamilton). The toast of the "Immortal Memory" was proposed by the Rev. Charles Sneddon, and his speech was both interesting and able. His Worship the Mayor and the Sheriff of Nottingham honoured the gathering with their company, and responded to toasts; the musical programme was much appreciated.

The Whist Drive and Dance on New Year's night was a record in point of numbers.

SYLLABUS.

1907.

June 13. Annual Outing to Ollerton.

Oct. 8. Social Evening.

,, 22. Lantern Lecture, "Scottish Scenery"—A. T. Metcalfe, Esq., F.G.S.

Nov. 5. Whist Drive.

,, 19. President's Night.

,, 28. Scottish Concert—Glasgow Select Choir, J. Scott Skinner, and Pipers and Dancer of H.M. Scots Guards.

Dec. 3. Lantern Lecture, "Lincolnshire and Isle of Man"—Thos. Wright, Esq.

,, 17. Whist Drive.

1908.

Jan. 1. Whist Drive and Dance.

,, 6. Musical Evening.

,, 21. "A Nicht wi' Burns."

,, 27. Burns Anniversary Dinner.

Feb. 4. "Sketch Party" and Musical Evening.

,, 18. Whist Drive.

,, 26. Annual Ball.

Mar. 3. Musical Evening.

,, 17. Lantern Lecture, "Perth to Inverness—Dr Millar.

,, 31. Social Evening.

Viewing the year as a whole, it has been a most satisfactory one, and the Council, in thanking the members for their support, confidently appeal for an even greater measure of their active interest during the forthcoming session.

PROGRAMME OF ORDINARY FORTNIGHTLY MEETINGS.

Winter Session, 1908-1909.

1908.

Oct. 13. Social Evening.
,, 27. Lantern Lecture by Dr Millar—"Picturesque Edinburgh."
Nov. 10. Whist Drive.
,, 24. Social Evening—Arranged by the President.
Dec. 8. Whist Drive.
,, 22. Musical Evening.

1909.

Jan. 12. Musical Variety Night.
,, 26. "A Nicht wi' Burns."
Feb. 9. Whist Drive.
,, 23. Ladies' Night.
Mar. 9. "Votes for Women."
,, 23. Social Evening.

NOTES AND QUERIES.

FORTHCOMING FAC-SIMILE

OF THE

ORIGINAL KILMARNOCK EDITION (1786).

There will be issued early in 1909 a fac-simile of the original Kilmarnock Edition (1786), from the press of Messrs Brown & Coy., Kilmarnock, the lineal business successors of the late James M'Kie, of Burns publishing fame. The imprint will be from photogravure blocks of each page, and the paper, ink, and wrappers will be exact reproductions of the original in every respect. The paper (hand-made) has been specially manufactured, and bears the same water-mark as the original; the covers, also, will be as near as possible the same colour. The volume will, therefore, be a unique one, and is likely to rise in value, the impression being limited. The price to subscribers is half-a-guinea, and early ordering is advisable to prevent disappointment.

We may add that the preparation of the volume is being carefully supervised by the editor of the *Chronicle*, and that it is to be published under the auspices of the Burns Federation.

AN ELLISLAND RELIC.

We have to record the discovery of a document which, while throwing no further light upon the Poet's thoughts and actions, yet fills in some interesting details regarding those dark days of his life when he left the farm of Ellisland. The document in question was found by the writer amongst the papers of the Edinburgh Burns Club—a body whose earliest known records date from 25th January, 1848, when, as the minutes of the Club state, "a few citizens of Edinburgh, finding that in the Metropolis there was no annual commemoration of the birth of Scotland's immortal Bard, formed themselves into a Burns Club, and dined that day on sheephead and haggis in the Old Exchange Coffee-house." This was not, however, the first occasion on which the Poet's metropolitan admirers met to pledge his memory; for in a letter to Mr George Thomson, written on 1st February, 1819, Sir Walter Scott accepted an invitation to a Burns dinner on the 22nd of that month.

It may be recalled that in the early sixties the Edinburgh Burns Club collected and transferred to the Trustees of the Burns Monument many valuable relics of the Poet. The prime mover in this matter was the late Mr James Ballantine, for many years secretary of the Club, and the author of "The Gaberlunzie's Wallet," "The Miller of Deanhaugh," and those popular lyrics, "Ilka Blade o' Grass" and "Castles in the Air," and to whom was due the credit of getting the interior of the monument opened up and converted into a relic room. Amongst those who contributed relics was Mr A. Dobie, of Lancaster Place, London, who sent the original tack of the farm of Ellisland and two other papers—one, as he stated, apparently the MS. of "The Cottar's Saturday Night," and the other an award in regard to repairs on the farm. These documents, he explained, had come into his hands some years previously as executor of Mr Archibald Hastie, M.P. for Paisley, who, it may be remembered, bequeathed Burns's punch-bowl to the British Museum, from which some years afterwards the Club unsuccessfully tried to get it transferred to the Burns Museum. The lease of Ellisland, and probably the MS. of "The Cottar's Saturday Night," were duly placed in the Monument Museum; but for some reason not disclosed by the papers, the award was left in the charter chest of the Club. Perhaps amidst the wealth of material collected by the Club, it may have been deemed an unimportant memento; but at the present time, when every fresh scrap of information regarding the Poet or his contemporaries is welcomed, it may fairly be considered of some historical value. It is in the following terms:—"Elisland, 19th Janr. 1792.—We, Joseph Henning, in Merkland, and Patrick Barr, in M'Cubbinstown, Barley-men, at the desire of Mr John Morrin of Laggan, we went this day and viewed the Houses upon Elisland lately possessed by Mr Robert Burns, and find that the byre and stable will take ten shillings for thatch and workmanship, the Barn thirteen shillings for thatch and workmanship, the dwelling-house for Glass six shillings, for sclate and workmanship five shillings. This we give as our opinion to put the Houses in a tenantable condition.

"PATRICK BARR.
"JOSEPH HENNING.

"£0 10
0 13
0 6
0 5
———
£1 14 in whole."

The valuation presents several features of interest, and, in particular, brings to mind the bitter quarrel between Burns and the Laird of Laggan. It will be noted that the value of the dilapidations is small compared with the extent of the buildings, but these were comparatively new, having only been erected for four years. By the lease, Mr Miller, the proprietor, bound himself

to pay to the Poet £300 for the construction of suitable buildings, consisting of dwelling-house, barn, byre, stable, and sheds. Into this work Burns entered with a will which made his early days at Ellisland amongst the happiest of his life, and it is related that on laying the foundation he took off his hat and invoked a blessing on his future home. In 1791, Mr Morrin, whose lands adjoined those of Ellisland, purchased the farm, which was described as the "forty shilling or three merk land of old extent of Ellisland." Burns, glad to get rid of what he considered a bad bargain—"a ruinous affair"—became a party to the transaction by relinquishing his lease; and the document now discovered is the record of what is still known in the district as "the sichtin' o' the houses" by two neighbouring farmers—one acting for Burns, and the other for the incoming tenant. The settlement of the matter did not proceed smoothly between the Poet and the new proprietor. The dispute, as is not uncommon even nowadays, originated with regard to the value of the manure left on the farm, and the state of the offices and fences. As to the latter, Burns urged that, as a *quid pro quo*, there should be taken into account the fact that during his tenancy he had reclaimed what was practically a piece of waste ground. But the laird stuck to the letter of the lease, and insisted upon Burns leaving everything in proper order before quitting the place. The Poet felt aggrieved at this strict stipulation, and on the day of the removal several incidents occurred which tried his temper and displeased his pride. So he resolved upon a rich revenge. When inspired by the Muse, it was one of his quaint conceits to write his lines with a diamond upon the window panes, and of these compositions the glass at Ellisland doubtless had an ample share. Accordingly, in the evening—for, be it noted, the deed was done in the dark—he sent Adam Armour from Dumfries, with orders to break every pane on which there remained any of his writings. This commission was faithfully executed. All the panes were smashed; and although, as will be seen from the award, the laird received the modest sum of six shillings as the value of the damage, he lost many priceless relics of the Poet.

Here, then, is the last touch to the unpleasant venture of the Poet's unfortunate experience in farming—an experience which fairly ruined him financially, and completely dispelled his fond hopes of leading an idyllic life as a farmer-poet. But though Ellisland proved a bad speculation for the Bard, it must ever remain classic ground, for it was there he sang his sweetest, and by its banks and braes wrote those matchless compositions which made him the "High Chief of Scottish Song."

R. Duncan, Secy.,
Edinburgh Burns Club.

SALE OF BURNS RELICS.

An interesting series of Burns and Jean Armour relics were sold at the Mart, Glasgow, by Messrs J. & R. Edmiston. The collection comprised about twenty lots, and nearly half of these were secured by Mr John Thomson, Dumfries, who has already gathered together many similar relics. His purchases included two neck napkins, one made of thread and the other of muslin, which belonged to Jean Armour; a pin-cushion, the outside wood of which formed part of the "kist" made for Burns preparatory to his proposed sailing for Jamaica; a tea-caddy given to Jean Armour as a wedding gift by her brother James; a gold keeper ring which belonged to Jean Armour and was given to Mrs M'Ilvean by Colonel William Nicol Burns; and four letters—two written by Colonel William Nicol Burns, one by the Poet's son Robert, and one by Mrs Burns Hutchinson—all addressed to Mrs Eliza Armour Brown or M'Ilvean. Mrs Hutchinson's letter, which is dated from "3 Berkeley Street, Oct. 21st" (the year is not given) states:—

"I regret to say that we have no writing of my grandfather's. If you remember, my father was seventy-two years old, and the first life of the Poet Burns was written by Dr Currie, of Liverpool, and your aunt, Mrs Burns, gave up all his poems and writings to Dr Currie, and they were never given back to his widow, which ought to have been done by Dr Currie, so you see the family have none of them. The two or three my father and Uncle W. had, they went to the public monuments in Scotland, which I consider very hard upon myself and sister; and old Robert Burns, his son, had what was left of his father's books at my aunt's death. I have not a poem that belonged to my grandfather. I only have his writing in his Bible, and that is the entry of the births of his family, and the book my father took out to India with him when he came home to see his mother in 1832. . . We have not even the Naysmith portrait that Colonel W. Burns willed to the National Gallery in Edinburgh."

BURNS AND OLD ROME FOREST.

The "Allan Line."

Being a grandson of Mrs Allan, the Poet's aunt, I propose to put on record the history of her family.

Mrs Allan, whose maiden name was Jean Brown, was a *half*-sister to Agnes Brown, the Poet's mother. Jean Brown married James Allan, a native of Stewarton, who was a joiner to trade, and at that time (1775) was employed as joiner and general mechanic on the Fairlie estate in the parish of Dundonald. The newly-married couple occupied a cottage on the estate. Here their family

of seven children were born, and here the husband died in 1789, just fourteen years after their marriage, leaving a young family, a well-furnished house, and the sum of £20 in the bank, his legacy to his young widow. *After* her husband's death, Mrs Allan removed from the cottage into the village of Old Rome, where she had her children educated and apprenticed out to trades. After a good many years, she was married a second time to a man named Adam Baird, with whom she lived in most loving relationship until her death, which took place in 1821, aged 69 years. I may note here that Baird died in less than eight days from the day of his wife's funeral, and that when the small estate which Jean Brown left came to be divided amongst the family there was still to the fore in the bank the sum of £20, the exact amount left her by her first husband thirty-two years before. There were no children by the second marriage. As to her family of seven children, they were in order as follow :—

1. James, her eldest, followed the same occupation as the father, settled in Mauchline, married, and died two months after his marriage, aged 23 years. There were no children of this marriage.

2. Andrew, the second son, became a weaver, which was at that time a popular trade and somewhat lucrative. He settled in Newmilns, or Greenholm rather, had a family of four daughters, the only one alive being Mrs Lambie, Greenholm, Newmilns, widow of the late William Lambie, agent and manufauturer in Newmilns. Andrew died in 1851 or 1852, aged 64 years.

3. Alexander, the third son, had learned the trade of shoemaking with James Cunningham, College Wynd, Kilmarnock, and wrought as a journeyman with James Nisbet, Loudoun Kirk. Afterwards he learned ship-carpentry at Saltcoats, took to a sea-faring life, became captain of a sailing ship and the owner of several, and ultimately laid the foundation of what has become and is now known all over the world as the "Allan Line" of magnificent steamships, sailing to almost all parts of the world. He died in 1854, aged 74 years. The only surviving sons are Andrew in Canada, and Alexander, the head of the firm in Glasgow and Liverpool.

4. John, the fourth son, also became a weaver, settled in Newmilns, and had a family of five sons and one daughter. He died in 1857, aged 75 years. There survive of his family : Andrew, who has long lived in America ; John, who follows his father's occupation in Greenholm, Newmilns (and to whom the writer is indebted for the most of the facts herein stated) ; Alexander, also a weaver at Townhead, Newmilns ; and Janet, widow of Hugh Morton, Townhead, Newmilns.

5. Margaret, her eldest daughter, married Hugh Jack, quarryman Riccarton ; they had a family of six sons and four daughters. She died in 1844, aged 60 years. The only surviving member of the family is the writer of this letter.

6. Fairlie, the second daughter (so named after the estate on which she was born) married James Findlay, miner, Gargieston. She had a family of four sons and two daughters. She died in 1840, aged 50 years. Of this family, there survive Hugh and Alexander Findlay, both occupying places of trust under J. & M. Craig, coalmasters, Hillhead, Kilmarnock.

7. Janet Frances, the third daughter, married James Stevenson, some time butler at Bellfield, and afterwards church-officer in Riccarton Parish Church. She died in 1840, aged 52 years. They had a family of nine children. There survive—Jean (Mrs Boyd), Mary (Mrs M'Dougal), and Alexander, a Colonel of the Montreal Volunteers—a Freemason in high office, a very devout worshipper of Burns, and a genuine Scot to the bone. This whole family emigrated to Canada nearly 40 years ago.

Perhaps I might leave the remaining queries to be attended to by some one of greater antiquarian knowledge than myself. I may say, however, that I think there will be no great difficulty in assigning to the site of the isolated cottage on the Fairlie estate, occupied by James Allan and his wife, the name of Old Rome Forest. No doubt, that designation indicates a condition of agriculture in that locality very different from what exists in the present day; and it must not be forgotten that the village was not the "Forest." The village (what skeleton of it remains) occupies the same situation as it did at least 50 years ago, but the cottage where Burns spent some of his evenings was outside the village, and within the policies of the Fairlie estate. Perhaps some other correspondent will be able to inform your readers whether the Allan cottage still stands, and if it has disappeared, point out its exact site.

A. Jack.

(*Circa* 1894.)

BURNS AND GLENRIDDEL.

A New Letter.

In the record of the Ellisland-Dumfries period of Robert Burns's life the name Riddel occurs as frequently perhaps as any, and none is mentioned with greater respect than that of Robert Riddel of Glenriddel. Burns and Riddel appear to have become acquainted on the Poet's removal (1788) from Mossgiel to Ellisland "unknown to prose or rhyme." During the succeeding three years they spent much of their leisure together; Burns had the freedom of the grounds of Friars' Carse and was a welcome and an honoured guest at Glenriddel's table. "At the Riddels' fireside," he wrote, "I have enjoyed more pleasant evenings than at all the houses of fashionable people in this country put together; and to their kindness and hospitality I am indebted for many

of the happiest hours of my life." Elsewhere in his writings Burns has recorded high appreciation of Riddel, never higher than in the sonnet he wrote when poet and patron, still estranged over that incident at Woodley Park, Glenriddel died, "and hath not left his peer."

Considering the warm friendship that existed between the two men, it is surprising to find that, in the printed correspondence of Burns only two prose letters—these among the least interesting of all he wrote—and three brief extempore epistles in rhyme are recorded as having been sent to Glenriddel; all of these are printed in the Chambers-Wallace edition of his *Life and Works*. A third prose letter, earlier in date than either of the others, is buried among the notes to "The day returns" in Henley and Henderson's edition of the *Poetry of Burns*. It is undated, but the editors of that work place it at September 9, 1788, and print it (vol. III. pp. 340-1) either in full or in part—they do not say which:—

"As I was busy behind my harvest folks this forenoon, and musing on a proper theme for your "Seventh of November," some of the conversation before me accidentally suggested a suspicion that this said Seventh of November is a matrimonial anniversary with a certain very worthy neighbour of mine. I have seen very few who owe so much to a wedding-day as Mrs Riddel and you, and my imagination took the hint accordingly, as you will see on the next page."

Another letter (also undated) from Burns to the laird of Friars' Carse has recently come to light, and has been added to the collection of Mr Richard Edmiston, junior, of Glasgow. Through his kindness it is now printed, for the first time so far as we know:—

"Captn. Riddel,
Friars' Carse,
Sir,

I will be writing Peter Hill next week, when I will remember M'Nish's book. You know I don't like asking favours of the gentleman—dare I trouble you, if you meet with the Member, to get me a Frank.

October the second, 1791."

"Colonel Fullarton of Fullarton,
Fullarton House,
Irvine.

I am to send the Colonel some things, beside the Whistle; & do not wish to put him to expense. I inclose you the letter to the Duke [of Queensberry?] that you were pleased to think so well of. I also send you the first, the very first, sketch of a few stanzas, almost extempore, on a very amiable Subject. I am pleased with some of the lines; perhaps because they are new; but they shall see a few chosen friends, or be entirely supprest, as it

shall be their fate to meet with your & Mrs Riddel's applause or disapprobation.

I shall not be able to go to town to-morrow.

I have the honour to be, Sir, your deeply indebted humble servt.,

ROBERT BURNS.

Tuesday, noon."

The manuscript is an exceedingly fine specimen of Burns's caligraphy, and is in excellent condition. "M'Nish's book," referred to, was probably one that Riddel had recommended for the library of Monkland (Friars' Carse) Friendly Society, of which Burns, according to Riddel, was "treasurer, librarian, and censor;" the member of Parliament was the younger Miller of Dalswinton; and the stanzas were, doubtless, those of the song on the Poet's "idol, lovely Davies," beginning,

> "Oh, how shall I, unskilfu', try
> The poet's occupation?"

Unfortunately the verses are not now with the letter.

Considerable interest attaches to the letter, not only in itself, but because it is a step towards the completion of a series that should illustrate the story of Burns's connection with the Riddel family. Other letters there were, and probably they (or some of them) still exist. But it is an unkind fate that has denied to the correspondence of Burns and Riddel a completeness such as that of the Poet and Mrs Dunlop, or of the series exchanged by "Sylvander" and "Clarinda."

Another document that has lately been acquired by Mr Edmiston may be printed without comment, which could only be conjectural. The bill is endorsed (on reverse) by Burns and the elder Miller of Dalswinton:—

"Elliesland, 21st Octr., 1791.

£26 5s 9d Stg.

Conjunctly and Severally Against the 2d February 1792 pay me or order in the Bank Office of Scotland, Dumfries, Twenty Six pounds five Shillings and Ninepence Sterling value Received from ROBERT BURNS.

To Mr Alex. Thomson, Maxwelton, John Whightman. Dumfries, and John M'Burnie, Druidvale. Conjunctly and Severally. } Alexander Thomson. John Whightman. John M'Burnie."

MOTTO—"A MAN'S A MAN FOR A' THAT."

The Burns Federation.

INSTITUTED 1885.

Hon. President—The Right Hon. The EARL OF ROSEBERY, K.G., K.T.

Hon. Vice-President—Captain D. SNEDDON, V.D., J.P.

OFFICE-BEARERS.

President—WM. WALLACE, LL.D., 42 Athole Gardens, Glasgow.

Vice-Presidents—Sir JAMES SIVEWRIGHT, K.C.M.G.
Professor LAWSON, D.D., The University, St. Andrews.
Rev. JAMES FORREST, M.A., 8 Holland Place, Glasgow.
JAMES BALLANTYNE, 21 Rose Street, Garnethill, Glasgow.
THOMAS BROWN, Maryfield, Lowwaters, Hamilton.
Ex-Bailie HUGH MAYBERRY, J.P., St. Vincent Street, Glasgow.
HUGH ALEXANDER, J.P., Eastfield House, Rutherglen.
J. JEFFREY HUNTER, 109 Bath Street, Glasgow.
A. M'CALLUM, *News* Office, Pollokshaws.
ALEXANDER POLLOCK, 52 West Nile Street, Glasgow.
JOSEPH MARTIN, 163 West George Street, Glasgow.
Alderman WILLIAM BURNS, Sunderland.
W. H. TURNER, 9 The Oaks, Sunderland.

Hon. Secretary—THOS. AMOS, M.A., 19 Glebe Road, Kilmarnock.

Assistant Secretary—GEO. A. INNES, F.E.I.S., Kilmarnock.

Hon. Treasurer—JOSEPH BROCKIE, J.P., Royal Bank, Kilmarnock.

Editor "Burns Chronicle"—D. M'NAUGHT, J.P., Benrig, Kilmaurs.

Auditors—Captain D. YUILLE and ADAM MACKAY, Kilmarnock.

CONSTITUTION.

1. The *Federation* shall consist of an Hon. President, Executive Council, and the affiliated members of each Club.

2. The *Executive Council* shall consist of a President, Vice-Presidents, Hon. Secretary, Hon. Treasurer, Editor of Annual *Burns Chronicle*, and two Auditors—all of whom shall be elected annually and be eligible for re-election—also of the President, Vice-President, and Secretary, or any other three members of, and nominated by each affiliated Club, and other gentlemen of eminence as Burnsites nominated by the Executive.

3. All Past Presidents of the Federation shall *ex officio* be members of the Executive Council.

OBJECTS OF THE FEDERATION.

1. To strengthen and consolidate the bond of fellowship existing amongst the members of Burns Clubs and kindred societies by universal affiliation.

2. To superintend the publication of works relating to Burns.

3. To acquire a fund for the purchase and preservation of Holograph Manuscripts and other Relics connected with the Life and Works of the Poet, and for other purposes of a like nature, as the Executive Council may determine.

RULES.

1. The Headquarters of the Federation shall be at Kilmarnock, the town in which the Federation was inaugurated and carried to a practical issue, and which contains the only properly organised Burns Library and Museum in the United Kingdom.

2. Properly organised Burns Clubs, St. Andrew's Societies, and kindred Associations may be admitted to the Federation by application in writing to the Hon. Secretary, enclosing copy of Constitution and Rules.

3. The Registration Fee is 21s, on receipt of which the Diploma of the Federation shall be issued, after being numbered and signed by the President and Hon. Secretary.

4. Members of every Burns Club or Kindred Association registered by the Federation shall be entitled to receive a pocket Diploma on payment of 1s. *(These payments are final—not annual).*

5. The Funds of the Federation shall be vested in the Executive Council for the purposes before-mentioned.

6. A meeting of the Executive Council shall be held annually during the Summer or Autumn months at such place as may be agreed upon by the Office-bearers, when reports on the year's transactions shall be submitted by the Hon. Secretary and Hon. Treasurer, and Office-bearers elected for the ensuing year.

7. A meeting of the Office-bearers shall take place some time before the Annual Meeting of the Executive Council, to make the necessary arrangements for the same.

8. That each Federated Club shall subscribe 10s 6d per annum towards the fund for the publication of the *Burns Chronicle.*

9. Notice of any amendment or alteration of the Constitution or Rules of the Federation, to be considered at the Annual Meeting, must be in writing to the Hon. Secretary not later than 31st March.

BENEFITS.

1. Registered Clubs are supplied free with copies of newspapers containing accounts of meetings, demonstrations, etc., organised, conducted, or attended by the Executive Council of the Federation, and of the Annual Meeting of the Kilmarnock Burns Club.

2. Exchange of fraternal greetings on the anniversary of the Poet's natal day.

3. Members of Registered Clubs who have provided themselves with pocket diplomas are entitled to attend meetings of all Clubs on the Roll of the Federation, they being subject to the rules of the Club visited, but having no voice in its management unless admitted a member according to local form.

4. Members are entitled to be supplied through the Secretaries of their respective Clubs, with copies of all works published by the Federation, at a discount of 33⅓ per cent.

BOOKS PUBLISHED BY THE FEDERATION.

Burns Holograph Manuscripts in the Kilmarnock Monument Museum, with Notes		1889	1s 6d
Burns Chronicle and Club Directory		1892	1s 0d
,,	,,	1893	1s 6d
,,	,,	1894	1s 6d
,,	,,	1895	1s 6d
,,	,,	1896	1s 6d
,,	,,	1897	1s 6d
,,	,,	1898	1s 6d
,,	,,	1899	1s 6d
,,	,,	1900	1s 6d
,,	,,	1901	1s 6d
,,	,,	1902	1s 6d
,,	,,	1903	1s 6d
,,	,,	1904	1s 6d
,,	,,	1905	1s 6d
,,	,,	1906	1s 6d
,,	,,	1907	1s 6d
,,	,,	1908	1s 6d
,,	,,	1909	1s 6d

(out of print) ,,

A few copies of the back vols. may still be had on application to the Hon. Secretary. Increased prices are charged when the vols. are out of print.

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING

OF THE

BURNS FEDERATION.

COUNCIL CHAMBERS, ST. ANDREWS,
5th September, 1908.

THE annual meeting of the Executive Council of the Burns Federation was held here to-day at 12 o'clock, Dr Wm. Wallace, editor of the *Glasgow Herald*, presiding.

The following delegates from Federated Clubs were present:—

No. 0, Kilmarnock—Captain D. Sneddon, Mr D. M'Naught, and Mr T. Amos, M.A.

No. 1, London—Robert Burns Club—Mr Alexander Stephen.

No. 13, St. Andrews—Mr John L. Low, Professor Lawson, and Mr W. M. Robertson.

No. 14, Dundee—Mr J. A. Purves.

No. 21, Greenock—Mr Thomas Graham and Mr William Lees.

No. 22, Edinburgh—Mr Thomas Carmichael.

No. 36, Glasgow Rosebery—Mr W. C. Goldie, Mr George Armour, Mr P. Smith, jun., Mr Alexander Pollock, and Mr John M'William.

No. 50, Stirling—Mr John Craig.

No. 57, Thornliebank—Mr John Neilson and Mr William Park, jun.

No. 67, Glasgow Carlton—Mr William Moffat, Mr D. M. Duff, and Mr W. J. Straiton.

No. 68, Glasgow Sandyford—Ex-Bailie Hugh Mayberry.

No. 71, Carlisle—Mr James Watt.

No. 79, Corstorphine—Mr William Wilson.

No. 83, Glasgow Co-operative—Mr J. Blair Smith.

No. 85, Dunfermline—Mr P. Paterson and Mr Robert Taylor.

No. 89, Sunderland—Mr William M'Lennan, Mr George Mackay, Mr W. P. Eastwood, and Mr D. Condie.

No. 100, Hamilton Mossgiel—Thomas Brown.

No. 108, East Calder and District—Mr Wm. Young, Mr George Young, and Mr John S. Young.

No. 128, Cowdenbeath, Glencairn—Mr Duncan Beaton and Mr Thomas Ferguson.

No. 139, Glasgow National—Mr James Ballantyne, Mr John Carmichael, and Mr Joseph Martin.

No. 145, Glasgow Central—Mr W. D. M'Laren.

No. 150, Kilmarnock Jolly Beggars—Mr Andrew Sinclair and Mr Archibald Laird.

No. 151, Old Kilpatrick—Mr Thomas Struthers.

No. 153, Glasgow Scottish—Mr John Wilson.

No. 164, Kinning Park—Mr Duncan M'Callum and Mr Thomas Deans.

No. 169, Glasgow and District—Mr J. Jeffrey Hunter.

Apologies for absence were intimated from Sheriff Mackenzie and Mr G. A. Innes, F.E.I.S., Kilmarnock; Mr Joseph Dobbie, ex-M.P.; and the following clubs:—No. 9, Glasgow Royalty; No. 18, Liverpool; No. 48,

Paisley ; No. 74, Glasgow Mauchline ; No. 90, Garelochhead ; No. 109, Glasgow Caledonia ; No. 113, Vale of Leven Glencairn ; No. 140, Pollokshaws ; No. 159, Walker-on-Tyne ; No. 163, Gateshead and District ; No. 168, Riccarton.

Provost Wilson, on behalf of the Corporation, gave the delegates a hearty welcome to the ancient city ; and Mr John L. Low, president of the St. Andrews Burns Club, expressed his pleasure at the meeting being held in St. Andrews.

The Secretary read the minutes of the last annual meeting and the Committee meetings held during the year, and these were duly approved of.

In his report the Secretary referred to the loss the Federation had sustained by the death of the former president, Mr David Murray, and also of Mr James M'Culloch, one of the vice-presidents. He said they were indebted to their new president, Dr William Wallace, for the whole-hearted manner in which he was advocating the foundation of a Chair of Scottish History and Literature.

During the year the following new clubs had been enrolled—Birmingham, Riccarton, Glasgow and District, Larkhall Thistle, and the Burns Society, Chattanooga, Tenn., U.S.A.

The Treasurer's statement was submitted and passed. It showed an income of £52 13s 7d for the year, and an expenditure of £50 0s 5d, leaving a credit balance of £2 13s 2d on hand, which brought up the capital funds to £245 12s.

In answer to a question the Secretary stated that 61 clubs had subscribed to the *Chronicle* Publication Fund.

Mr D. M'Naught, in his report on the *Chronicle*, said that it was maintaining its circulation, and the financial results were satisfactory. He had spent £16 of the grant given last year for the payment of contributors, and he asked a renewal of the grant. He also intimated that Messrs J. M. Munro, Ltd., had ceased to publish the *Chronicle*, and he thought the question of its future publication ought to be discussed.

Mr Alexander Pollock moved, and Mr Joseph Martin seconded, that the matter be remitted, with powers, to a committee consisting of the office-bearers and delegates from several Glasgow clubs, and that a meeting be held in Glasgow at an early date to make arrangements for the publication of the *Chronicle*.

Subsequently the following clubs were appointed to send each a representative :—Rosebery, National, Haggis, Tam o' Shanter, Carlton, Greenock, and Kinning Park.

On the motion of ex-Bailie Mayberry, it was agreed to add the name of Mr John Wilson, of the Scottish Burns Club.

Mr Andrew Sinclair moved that the grant of £25, for the payment of contributors, be renewed, and this was unanimously agreed to.

The Chairman, in the course of his remarks regarding the proposed Chair of Scottish History and Literature, stated that the funds at present amounted to nearly £5000, and that the Committee would meet again in October for active operations. He wished to see the Burns Federation take a leading part in the movement. Circulars on behalf of the Chair had not produced great results, and he asked what they were going to substitute for circulars. He strongly advised the delegates to extend their work for this object outside of Burns Clubs.

Mr John Wilson recommended that every club which had not yet already contributed should be instructed to make a collection at the anniversary meeting.

After a discussion, in which Mr James Watt, of Carlisle, Mr Stephen, of London, and Mr James Ballantyne, Mr Alexander Pollock, and ex-Bailie Mayberry, of Glasgow, took part, it was agreed to send out another circular to the clubs in October asking for some definite support to the scheme.

Captain Sneddon, in submitting a report on the progress of the work at the Auld Brig o' Ayr, said he was pleased to state that good work had been done during the past year. There might be another year's work on the structure. The subscriptions intimated to date amounted to £10,467 5s 11d, and the expenditure was £4292 1s 8½d.

ELECTION OF OFFICE-BEARERS.

On the motion of Captain Sneddon, seconded by Mr M'Naught, Dr William Wallace was unanimously re-elected President. Captain Sneddon also proposed as Vice-Presidents Messrs T. Brown, J. Jeffrey Hunter, A. M'Callum, Alex. Pollock, Joseph Martin, Alderman Burns, W. H. Turner, and Professor Lawson. This was seconded by Mr A. Sinclair. On the motion of Mr Jeffrey Hunter, it was agreed to retain Ex-Bailie H. Alexander on the list of Vice-Presidents; and at the request of Mr P. Paterson Sir James Sivewright, K.C.M.G., was also retained. The following new Vice-Presidents were added to the list:—Rev. James Forrest, M.A.; Ex-Bailie Hugh Mayberry, J.P., and James Ballantyne. It was also unanimously agreed to re-elect the Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Treasurer, and Editor of the *Chronicle;* and to elect Captain David Yuille and Mr Adam Mackay as Auditors.

It was agreed that the meeting record in its minutes its sympathy with the widow and family of the late Mr John Drake, Poet-Laureate of the Federation, and the Secretary was instructed to write a letter of condolence to Mrs Drake.

On the motion of Mr P. Paterson, Secretary of Dunfermline Burns Club, it was agreed to hold next annual meeting in Dunfermline.

The meeting closed with a hearty vote of thanks to the Chairman.

LUNCHEON.

The delegates and several lady friends afterwards dined in the Cross Keys Hotel, under the presidency of Dr Wallace. After an excellent repast, Professor Lawson, in an able manner, proposed the toast of "The Burns Federation," to which Dr Wallace replied in an eloquent and stirring speech, in which he made a strong appeal on behalf of the proposed Chair of Scottish History.

The other toasts were:—"The St. Andrews Burns Club," proposed by Ex-Bailie Mayberry, J.P., acknowledged by Mr John L. Low; "The City of St. Andrews," proposed by Mr J. Jeffrey Hunter, acknowledged by Ex-Bailie Balsillie; "The Chairman," proposed by Mr Jas. Ballantyne; and "The Secretary of St. Andrews Burns Club," acknowledged by Mr W. Macbeth Robertson, to whom the meeting was much indebted for the excellent local arrangements.

After dinner, the delegates, under the guidance of the members of the local Burns Club, visited several of the places of interest in the ancient city.

THOMAS AMOS, *Hon. Secy.*

List of Clubs which have subscribed for the Publishing Fund, 1907-1908.

National Burns Club ...	£1	1	0
Baillieston	0	10	6
Glasgow Sandyford ..	0	10	6
Kirn...	0	10	6
Cowdenbeath Glencairn ...	0	10	6
Do. Arrears	0	10	6
Kilbowie Jolly Beggars ...	0	10	6
Glencairn Vale of Leven ...	0	10	6
Nottingham Scottish Assoc.	0	10	6
Edinburgh Ninety... ...	0	10	6
Airdrie	0	10	6
Cowdenbeath Haggis ...	0	10	6
Whitburn	0	10	6
Thornliebank	0	10	6
Blackburn-on-Almond ...	0	10	6
Walker-on-Tyne	0	10	6
Paisley	0	10	6
Dublin	0	10	6
Newarthill	0	10	6
Newcastle Tyneside ...	0	10	6
Hamilton Mossgiel ...	0	10	6
Wallesend and District ...	0	10	6
Darnconner Airds Moss ...	0	10	6
Ercildoune, Earlston ...	0	10	6
East Stirlingshire	0	10	6
Bellfield, Kilmarnock ...	0	10	6
Birmingham	0	10	6
Bristol Caledonian... ...	0	10	6
Bonnybridge	0	10	6
Row	0	10	6
Stonehouse...	0	10	6
Dundee	0	10	6
Rutherglen Cronies ...	£0	10	6
Charleston	0	10	6
Sunderland...	0	10	6
Gateshead and District ...	0	10	6
Old Kilpatrick	0	10	6
Blackburn	0	10	6
Falkirk	0	10	6
Kilmarnock Jolly Beggars	0	10	6
St. Andrews	0	10	6
Glasgow Thistle	0	10	6
Dalry	0	10	6
Hamilton	0	10	6
Glasgow Haggis	0	10	6
Greenock Cronies	0	10	6
Glasgow Mauchline Society	0	10	6
Greenock	0	10	6
Darlington	0	10	6
Musselburgh	0	10	6
Kilmarnock No. 0... ...	0	10	6
Glasgow Rosebery... ..	0	10	6
Dollar	0	10	6
Glasgow Scottish	0	10	6
Bonhill	0	10	6
Gourock Jolly Beggars ..	0	10	6
Glasgow Albany	0	10	6
Glasgow Kinning Park ...	0	10	6
Stirling	0	10	6
Corstorphine	0	10	6
Partick Western	0	10	0
Alexandria	0	10	0
	£33	0	6

ABSTRACT.

1 at £1 1s	£1	1	0
58 at 10/6	30	9	0
2 at 10/-	1	0	0
Arrears...	0	10	6
61	£33	0	6
Last Year's Amount	35	13	6
Decrease	£2	13	0

Alphabetical List of Federated Clubs.

No. 40. Aberdeen
84. Abington
23. Adelaide
20. Airdrie
143. Airdrie—Gateside
2. Alexandria
6. Alloa
82. Arbroath
174. Ardrossan Castle
123. Auchinleck
19. Auckland
157. Baillieston Caledonia
99. Barlinnie
12. Barrow-in-Furness
64. Beith
15 Belfast
167. Birmingham
30. Blackburn
125. Blackburn-on-Avon
95. Bolton
29. Bolton Juniors
119. Bonhill
142. Bonnybridge
76. Brechin
120. Bristol
114. Brodick
106. Broxburn—Rosebery
4. Callander
110. Cambuslang
87. Campsie
71. Carlisle
102. Carlisle—Border
81. Carstairs Junction
171. Chattanooga, U.S.A.
11. Chesterfield
51. Chicago
138. Cleland
166. Cleveland Scottish Association
93. Clydebank
103. Coalburn—Rosebery
79. Corstorphine
127. Cowdenbeath—Haggis
128. Cowdenbeath—Glencairn
42. Crieff
66. Crossgates
45. Cumnock
86. Cumnock—The Winsome
62. Cupar [Willie
35. Dalry
158. Darlington
122. Darnconner

No. 55. Derby
37. Dollar
146. Dublin
10. Dumbarton
52. Dumfries—Mechanics'
104. ,, Oak
112. ,, Howff
14. Dundee
69. Dunedin
80. Dunoon—Cowal
85. Dunfermline—United
134. Duntocher—Heron
5. Earlston
108. East Calder
22. Edinburgh
111. Edinburgh—South
124. Edinburgh—Ninety
155. East Stirlingshire
149. Elgin
126. Falkirk
44. Forfar
90. Garelochhead
163. Gateshead and District
3. Glasgow—Tam o' Shanter
7. ,, Thistle
9. ,, Royalty
24. ,, Bank
27. ,, Springburn
33. ,, Haggis
34. ,, Carrick
36. ,, Rosebery
38. ,, Jolly Beggars
39. ,, St. David's
41. ,, Dennistoun
43. ,, Northern
47. ,, St. Rollox
49. ,, Bridgeton
61. ,, Glencairn
63. ,, Mossgiel
67. ,, Carlton
68. ,, Sandyford
70. ,, St. Rollox Jolly Beggars
74. ,, Mauchline Soc.
78. ,, Ardgowan
83. ,, Co-operative
88. ,, Caledonian
107. ,, Hutchesontown
109 ,, Caledonia
117. ,, Southern
118. ,, Albany

No. 139. Glasgow—National
145. ,, Central
153. ,, The Scottish
129. ,, Gorbals
164. ,, Kinning Park
169. Glasgow and District
59. Gourock—Jolly Beggars
53. Govan—Fairfield
116. Greenloaning
21. Greenock
148. Greenock—Cronies
152. Hamilton
100. ,, Mossgiel
121. ,, Junior
136. ,, Royal Oak
137. Ipswich
173. Irvine
96. Jedburgh
154. Johannesburg, S.A.
92. Kilbowie
0. Kilmarnock
97. ,, Bellfield
150. ,, Jolly Beggars
115. Kippen
58. Kirkcaldy
75. Kirn
98. Lanark
144. Larbert and Stenhousemuir
170. Larkhall
73. Lenzie
18. Liverpool
1. London
28. Mauchline—The Jolly Beggars
175. Meikle Earnock
8. Morpeth (dormant)
101. Motherwell
56. Muirkirk—Lapraik

No. 65. Musselburgh
32. Newark
133. Newarthill
156. Newcastle and Tyneside
131. Nottingham
17. ,, (dormant)
151. Old Kilpatrick
172. Oregon, U.S.A.
48. Paisley
77. ,, Gleniffer
161. ,, Charleston
72. Partick
135. ,, Western
26. Perth
54. ,, St. Johnstone
162. Plymouth and District
140. Pollokshaws
132. Riccarton—Kirkstyle
168. Riccarton
130. Row
105. Rutherglen
31. San Francisco
91. Shettleston
13. St. Andrews
50. Stirling
141. Stonehouse
147. ,, Haggis
89. Sunderland
16. Sydney
57. Thornliebank
94. Uphall
113. Vale of Leven—Glencairn
159. Walker-on-Tyne
165. Wallsend-on-Tyne
46. Warwickshire
160. Whitburn
25. Winnipeg
60. Wolverhampton

DIRECTORY

OF

BURNS CLUBS AND SCOTTISH SOCIETIES

ON THE

ROLL OF THE BURNS FEDERATION, 1909.

No. 0—KILMARNOCK Burns Club. Instituted 1808. Federated 1885. Place and date of meeting, George Hotel, 25th January. President, ex-Bailie M. Smith, J.P., Glencairn Square, Kilmarnock; Vice-president, Neil D. M'Michael, B.L., John Finnie Street; *Secretary*, Thomas Amos, M.A., Sunnyside, Glebe Road. Committee—Captain D. Sneddon, V.D., J.P.; D. M'Naught, J.P.; Joseph Brockie, J.P.; Rev. G. S. Yuille, B.D.; ex-Bailie Kerr, B.L.; George A. Innes, F.E.I.S.; Wm. M'Menan, B.A.; Bailie M. Robertson, J.P.; James Middleton, J.P.; Sheriff Mackenzie, William Heron, Robert Wylie, Captain D. Yuille, and Captain G. H. Wilson.

No. 1—LONDON Robert Burns Club. Instituted 1868. Federated 1885. Place and date of meeting, various. President, Alexander Stephen, 23 Milton Street, E.C. Vice-president, Henry Durham, 13 Coleherne Road, South Kensington, S.W.; *Secretary*, W. C. Daniels, 3 Stamford Hill Mansions, N. Committee—R. Gunn Mackay, F. W. Warren, T. F. Myers, A. R. Molison, E. J. M. Allen, T. E. Price, H. D. Faith, S. Stockman, J. Thomson, T. W. Jacobs, jun., R. A. Walker, and W. A. Herbert, jun.

No. 2—ALEXANDRIA Burns Club. Instituted 1884. Federated 1885. Place and date of meeting, Village School, first Friday of each month. President, William Livsey, 20 Leven Bank Terrace, Jamestown; Vice-president, John M'Gowan, Linnbrane Terrace, Alexandria; *Secretary*, Duncan Carswell, Linnbrane Terrace, Alexandria; Treasurer, James Merrilees, Charlestown House, Alexandria. Committee—James M'Kenzie, A. M'Farlane, Donald Campbell, George Allan, Matthew Campbell, and Richard Thomson.

No. 3—GLASGOW Tam o' Shanter Club. Instituted 1880. Federated 1885. Place and date of meeting, Trades' House Restaurant, 89 Glassford Street, last Tuesday of October, November, February, and March, and 25th January. President, Rev. James Forrest, M.A., 8 Holland Place, Glasgow; Vice-president, John Carmichael, 27 Blythswood Drive, Glasgow; *Secretary*, George H. Forrest, 48 St. George's Mansions, Glasgow. Committee—Messrs Alex. M'Kenzie, D. M. Threshie, J. Jeffrey Hunter, T. P. Thompson, John Smith, James Ritchie, J. K. Watson, Andrew Crawford, Wm. Renfrew, A. C. Baird, Jas. Warden, and George Fisher. Special features of Club—Cultivation of works of Burns and of Scottish general literature.

No 4—CALLANDER Burns Club. Instituted 1877. Federated 1885. *Secretary*, James S. Anderson, Callander.

No. 5—ERCILDOUNE Burns Club. Instituted January, 1885. Federated 26th November, 1885. Place of meeting, Red Lion Hotel. President, A. A. Burt, M.A., Thorn Cottage, Earlston; Vice-presidents, Henry Wallace, High Street, Earlston, and Alex. Brown, Earlston; *Secretary and Treasurer*—Arch. M. Black, Market Place, Earlston.

No. 6—ALLOA Burns Club (formerly Alloa Haggis Club). Instituted 1873. Federated 1885. *Secretary*, R. Tait Melville, 44 Mill Street, Alloa.

No. 7—THISTLE Burns Club. Instituted 1882. Federated 1885. President, Charles Morton, 69 Nicholson Street, S.S., Glasgow; Vice-president, Richard Bogie, 28 Napiershall Street, Glasgow; *Secretary*, D. R. Montgomery, 122 South Portland Street, Glasgow; Treasurer, Jno. Eadie, 12 Bridge Street, S.S., Glasgow.

No. 8—MORPETH and District Burns Club (dormant). Last *Secretary*, John Dobson, Oldgate Street, Morpeth.

No. 9—GLASGOW Royalty Burns Club. Instituted 1882. Federated 1886. President, James M'Nicoll, 64 Waterloo Street; Vice-president, Robert Finlay, 219 Argyle Street; *Secretary*, Wm. C. Rodger, 44 Bath Street, Glasgow. Committee—Messrs Connell, Crocket, Dawson, Gibson, and Hamilton.

No. 10—DUMBARTON Burns Club. Instituted 1859. Federated 1886. Place and date of meeting, Elephant Hotel, 25th January, 1909. President, John M'Clelland, Barloan Crescent, Dumbarton; Vice-president, Charles M'Kinnon, Oxhill, Dumbarton; *Secretary*, Wm. Baird, Union Bank House, Dumbarton. Committee—Provost M'Farlane, Major Thomson, V.D.; Jas. Nimmo, John M'Pherson, Master of Works Wilson, and Town Treasurer J. G. Buchanan. Special features of the Club—Celebration of the Poet's Birthday.

No. 11—CHESTERFIELD Burns Society. Federated 1886. *Secretary*, Geo. Edward Drennan, 77 Salter Gate, Chesterfield, Derbyshire.

No. 12—BARROW-IN-FURNESS Burns Club (dormant). Federated 1886. *Secretary*, Alexander M'Naught, 4 Ramsden Square, Barrow-in-Furness.

No. 13—ST. ANDREWS Burns Club. Instituted 1869. Federated 1886. Place and date of meeting, Royal Hotel, St. Andrews, 25th January. President, the Rev. Professor Lawson, M.A., D.D., 4 Gillespie Terrace, St. Andrews; Vice-president, Dr James Orr, 3 Alexandra Place, St. Andrews; *Secretary and Treasurer*, W. Macbeth Robertson, solicitor, 119 Market Street, St. Andrews. Committee—John L. Low, Charles Freeman, Thomas Goodwillie, W. Norman Boase, W. Mitchell, William Duncan, David Hunter, and T. W. M'Callum, M.A.

No. 14—DUNDEE Burns Club. Instituted 1860. Federated 8th March, 1886. Place and date of meeting, 36 Nethergate, first Wednesday of every month at 8.30 p.m. President, George S. Middleton, 36 Nethergate; Vice-president, James Sharp, 36 Nethergate; *Secretary*, David R. Roberts, 36 Nethergate; Treasurer, Edward Dobson, 36 Nethergate; Curaror, John A. Purves, 36 Nethergate. Special features of Club—Library.

No. 15—BELFAST Burns Club. Instituted 1872. Federated 1886. *Secretary*, Barclay M'Conkey, Belfast.

No. 16. SYDNEY Burns Club (N.S.W.). Instituted 1880. Federated 1886. *Secretary*, W. Telfer, School of Arts, Pitt Street, Sydney, N.S.W.

No. 17. NOTTINGHAM Scottish Society (dormant). Federated 1886.

No. 18. LIVERPOOL Burns Club. Instituted 1866. Federated 1886. Place and date of meeting, Hotel St. George, Liverpool, 25th January. President, Colonel Richard Bulman, V.D., Mersey Chambers, Liverpool; *Secretary*, Major Robert Sinclair Archer, V.D., Clifton House, Birkenhead. Special features of Club—Offers prizes for essays on Scottish subjects to English Literature Class in Liverpool University.

No. 19—AUCKLAND Burns Club. Instituted 1884. Federated 1886. *Secretary*, John Horn, Wellington Street, Auckland, N.Z.

No. 20—AIRDRIE Burns Club. Instituted 1885. Federated 1886. Place and date of meeting, Royal Hotel, Airdrie, 25th January. President, Major Motherwell, Kensington Park, Airdrie; Vice-president, Walter Cochrane, Chapel Street, Airdrie; *Secretary*, Robert Lutter, Sunnybank, Airdrie; Treasurer, S. Rogerson. Committee —William Anderson, James Ramsay, J. C. Neil, R. Eadie, R. C. Platt.

No. 21—GREENOCK Burns Club. Instituted 1802. Federated 1886. Place and date of meeting, Club Rooms, Nicholson Street, at 8 o'clock. President, John Neill, M.A., J.P., Glenfield, Bedford Street, Greenock; Vice-presidents, John Barbour, 7 Arthur Street; Alex. Lambie, Ravenshall, Bogston; *Joint Secretaries*, Robert Smith, 19 Ardgowan Street, and Angus Macaskill, 45 Robertson Street. Special features of the Club—Club rooms are open to members at any time; keys with Curator on premises, 36 Nicholson Street. Library has valuable collection of editions of Burns, Fergusson, Galt, etc., and the walls are covered with signed portraits, including those of some of the most distinguised men in the country, who are honorary members of the Club. The Club makes a special feature of inter-visitation meetings with Burns Clubs in the West of Scotland, also of ladies' nights. Visitors are always welcome to attend Club meetings. The Greenock Club is the oldest Burns Club in the world.

No. 22—EDINBURGH Burns Club. Instituted 1848. Federated 1886. President, Archibald Menzies, S.S.C., 22 Rutland Street, Edinburgh; Vice-president, Thomas Carmichael, S.S.C., 10 Duke Street, Edinburgh; *Secretary*, Robert Duncan, solicitor, 38 Lygon Road, Edinburgh; Hon. Treasurer, Kenneth Henderson, C.A., 8 York Buildings, Edinburgh; Chaplain, the Rev. James Fergusson, Corstorphine; Bard, T. M. Hepburn ("Gabriel Setoun"); with Members of Council.

No. 23—ADELAIDE South Australian Caledonian Society. Instituted 1881. Federated 1886. *Secretary*, H. G. M'Kittrick, Society's Office, 70 Greenfield Street, Adelaide, S.A.

No. 24—GLASGOW Bank Burns Club (dormant)—Instituted 1884. Federated 1886.

No. 25—WINNIPEG St. Andrew's Society. Federated 1886. *Secretary*, David Phillip, Government Buildings, Winnipeg.

No. 26—PERTH Burns Club—Instituted 1873. Federated 1886. *Secretary* —John Harper, 68 St. John Street, Perth.

No. 27—SPRINGBURN Burns Club. Instituted 1884. Federated 1886. *Secretary*, Cameron Henderson, Syriam Terrace, Springburn, Glasgow.

No. 28—THE JOLLY BEGGARS Burns Club, Mauchline.

No. 29—BOLTON Burns Club. Instituted 1881. Federated 1886. *Secretary*, Harry George, 32 Halstead Street, The Harregh, Bolton.

No. 30—BLACKBURN Burns Club—Instituted 1884. Federated 9th July, 1886. Place of meeting, Victoria Hotel, Blackburn, Lancs. President, William Ferguson, "Dryfesdale," Park Road, Lytham, Lancs.; Vice-president, Thomas Anderson, 80 Penny Street, Blackburn; *Secretary and Treasurer*, Robert Ferguson, solicitor, 9 Tacketts Street, Blackburn, Lancs. Committee—J. Little. J. M'Vittie, W. Maxwell, J. Forbes, T. Ferguson, F. S. Jardine, J. Smith, J. Rutherford, F. Wilkinson, J. W. Barton, W. Wallbank, Alex. Shepherd, and W. Connell. Special features of Club—(1) To commemorate the birthday of Burns; (2) to encourage the study of Burns's works and of the Scottish Poets, and of literature generally.

No. 31—SAN FRANCISCO Scottish Thistle Club. Instituted 1882. Federated 1886. *Secretary*, George W. Paterson, 801 Guerero Street, San Francisco, U.S.A.

No. 32—NEWARK Burns Club. Federated 1886. *Secretary*, John Hogg, Caledonian Club, Newark, New Jersey, U.S.A.

No. 33. GLASGOW Haggis Club. Instituted 1872. Federated 1886. Place and date of meeting, National Burns Club, Ltd., 93 Douglas Street, Glasgow, last Friday of February, March, April, September, October, November, and December. President, Robert Wilson, J.P., 149 Howard Street; Vice-president, Major J. R. Metcalfe, J.P., 140 London Street. *Secretary*, Joseph Martin, 163 West George Street; Treasurer, Hugh B. Stewart, 74 York Street.

No. 34—CARRICK Burns Club. Instituted 1859. Federated 1887. Date of meeting, last Tuesday of each month. President, William Crawford, 23 Minerva Street, Glasgow; Vice-president, Robert Thorley, 150 Roebank Street, Dennistoun, Glasgow; *Secretary*, Thomas Ferguson, 412 Parliamentary Road, Glasgow; Treasurer, James Welsh, 46 Dixon Road, East, Crosshill, Glasgow. Special features of Club—Study of Burns and kindred literature.

No. 35—DALRY Burns Club. Instituted 1826. Federated 1887. Place and date of meeting, Dalry, Friday nearest 25th January. Chairman, Dr W. M. Brown, Townend House, Dalry; *Secretary*, J. Hunter Hamilton, 21 Clifford Street, Ibrox, Glasgow; Treasurer, P. Comrie, Dalry; *Recording Secretary*; D. Johnston, M.A., Tintagel, Dalry.

No. 36—GLASGOW Rosebery Burns Club. Instituted 1885. Federated 1887. Place of meeting, Ferguson & Forrester, Ltd., Buchanan Street, Glasgow. President, William C. Goldie, 50 Wellington Street, Glasgow; Vice-president, A. M. Williams, M.A., Sherbrooke Avenue, Ibrox; *Secretary*, J. Gartshore Scott, solicitor, 58 West Regent Street, Glasgow; Director of Music, J. T. M'Donald; Pianist, Con. Williams; Librarian, John Smith. Committee—Wm Allan, James Angus, A. G. Andrews, J. A. Beggs, L.D.S., T. W. Brown, D. Chalmers, jr, T. W. Young, D. Kelso, H. F. Milligan, Jas. Murray, Jno. M'William, A.

Pollock, and P. Smith, jr. Special features of Club—A series of lectures on Scottish Literature and History during the winter months; Competitions (senior and junior) for the encouragement of the study of Scottish songs, especially those of Burns.

No. 37—DOLLAR Burns Club. Instituted 1887. Federated 14th January, 1887. Place of meeting, Castle Campbell Hotel. President, W. Cruickshank, Alerdona Villa, Dollar; Vice-president, Provost Green, Station Road, Dollar; *Secretary*, Wm. Younger, Sydney House, Dollar; A. R. Stewart, Station Road, Dollar. Special features of the Club—To do honour to the memory of Robert Burns, and to give prominence to the power and beauty of Scottish song.

No. 38—GLASGOW Jolly Beggars' Burns Club (dormant). Instituted 1887. Federated 1888.

No. 39—GLASGOW St. David's Burns Club (dormant). Instituted 1887. Federated 1889.

No. 40—ABERDEEN Burns Club. Instituted 1887. Federated 1889. *Secretary*, James M'Intosh, 50 Mushit Hall, Aberdeen.

No. 41—DENNISTOUN Burns Club (dormant). Instituted 1887. Federated 1889. *Secretary*, John B. M'Intosh, 300 Duke Street, Glasgow.

No. 42—CRIEFF Burns Club. Instituted 1889. Federated 1891. *Secretary*—William Pickard, Meadow Place, Crieff.

No. 43—GLASGOW Northern Burns Club (dormant) Federated 1891. *Secretary*—James Weir, 216 New City Road, Glasgow.

No. 44—FORFAR Burns Club (dormant). Instituted 1890. Federated 1891. Last *Secretary*, Henry Rae, 14 Montrose Road, Forfar.

No. 45—CUMNOCK Burns Club. Instituted 1887. Federated 1891. *Secretary*, H. R. M'Culley, Hazelbank, Old Cumnock.

No. 46—WARWICKSHIRE Burns Club. Instituted 1888. Federated 1891. *Secretary*, Robert Greenfield, F.R.H.S., Ranelegh Nursery, Leamington.

No. 47—ST. ROLLOX Burns Club (dormant). Instituted 1889. Federated 1891.

No. 48—PAISLEY Burns Club. Instituted 1805. Federated 1891. Place and date of meeting, Globe Hotel, Paisley, first Thursday of every month from October till May inclusive. President, R. K. Bell, Middle Park, Paisley; Vice-president, J. W. Pollock, Lyndhurst, Hawkhead Road, Paisley; *Secretary*, Geo. W. Cockburn, St. Ives, Whitehaugh, Paisley.

No. 49—GLASGOW Bridgeton Burns Club. Instituted 1870. Federated 1891. President, George H. Laird, 10 Ann Street, Bridgeton, Glasgow; Vice-president, Malcolm A. Hendry, 5 Clayton Terrace, Dennistoun; *Secretary*, Wm. Cochran, 190 West George Street, Glasgow; Assistant Secretary, J. Tullis Cochran, 190 West George Street, Glasgow; ex-President, Dr Robert Wilson; Treasurer, Wm. Reid. Directors—J. M. Campbell, James McCullen, D. L. Stevenson, Councillor H. Colquhoun, Dr Alex. Munro, Thomas Potter, jr., Peter White, Andrew Hoy, and William Baird. Special features of the Club—Recitation and Singing Competitions for the pupils of the schools in Glasgow and children of members. Members, 370.

No. 50—STIRLING Burns Club. Instituted 1887. Federated 1891. Place and date of meeting, Station Hotel, January 25th. President, John Craig; *Secretary*, Ridley Sandeman, 22 Forth Crescent; Treasurer, James C. Muirhead, Port Street. Committee—D. B. Morris, Ronald Walker, Bailie Buchanan, Councillor Menzies, A. Dun, Alex. Love, J. F. Oswald, A. Mann, W. A. Weir, Wm. Cunningham, Peter Hunter, James Paterson, T. Thomson, J. Crawford, David Pearson.

No. 51—CHICAGO Caledonian Society. Federated 1892. *Secretary*, Charles T. Spence, 3002 Wabash Avenue, Chicago.

No. 52—DUMFRIES Mechanics' Burns Club Federated 1892. *Secretary*, James Anderson, 55 St. Michael Street, Dumfries.

No. 53—GOVAN Fairfield Burns Club. Instituted 26th January, 1886. Federated 23rd September, 1892 Date of meeting, First Wednesday of month, September to March. Hon. Presidents, ex-Bailie Hugh Lymburn and Geo. Maclachlan, Esq., J.P.; Hon. Vice-president, Thos. Black, Esq.; President, Thos. Fullarton, 917 Govan Road, Govan; Vice-president, Wm. Munro, 9 Reid Street, Govan; *Secretary*, Chas. Maltman, 16 M'Kechnie Street, Govan; Treasurer, Robt. Ferguson, 46 Fairfield Street, Govan. Management Committee — Donald M'Callum, Hugh Marr, and James Wands.

No. 54—PERTH St. Johnstone Burns Club. Federated 1892.

No. 55—DERBY Burns Club. Federated 1892. *Secretary*, Geo. M'Lauchlan, 49 Molyneaux Street, Derby.

No. 56—LAPRAIK (Muirkirk) Burns Club. Instituted 1893. Federated 1893. Place of meeting, Eglinton Arms Hotel. President, Thos. Alston, Main Street, Muirkirk; Vice-president, Thomas Weir, Victoria Buildings, Muirkirk; *Secretary*, H. Cameron, Main Street, Muirkirk; Treasurer, A. Pringle. Committee—R. Bell, John Taylor, Edgar Anderson. Special features of the Club—Holding Anniversary, and competition with school children on the songs and poems of the Bard.

No. 57—THORNLIEBANK Burns Club. Instituted 1891. Federated 1893. Place and date of meeting, Club Room, occasional and anniversaries. President, Robert Hutton, North Park, Thornliebank; Vice-president, James Andrew, 10 Maxwell Terrace, Thornliebank; *Secretary*, William Park, jun., Main Street, Thornliebank; 15 members of committee. Special features of the Club—School children's competition, Scotch concert, annual outing, and Club meetings.

No. 58—KIRKCALDY Burns Club. Federated 1892. *Secretary*, John A. Miller, 12 Quality Street, Kirkcaldy.

No. 59—GOUROCK Jolly Beggars' Burns Club. Instituted 1893. Federated 1893. Place of meeting, Gamble Institute, Gourock. President, ex-Provost Adam, Park Lea, Gourock; Vice-president, George Knox, Argyle Villa, Gourock; *Secretary*, Peter M. Weir, Broomberry Terrace, Gourock. Special features of the Club—Club meetings, annual outings, ladies' nights, and encouragement of Scottish literature.

No. 60—WOLVERHAMPTON Burns Club. Federated 1893. *Secretary*, James Killin, Beechgrove, Compton Road, Wolverhampton.

No. 61—GLASGOW Glencairn Burns Club (dormant). Federated 1893.

No. 62—CUPAR Burns Club. Instituted 1893. Federated 1893. Hon. President, H. T. Anstruther; President, Major Anstruther Gray, M.P., of Kilmany; Vice-presidents, T. W. Davidson, solicitor, and R. Osborne Pagan, W.S.; *Secretary*, David F. Esplin, *Dundee Courier* Office, Cupar; Treasurer, George White; Chairman of Committee, Geo. Innes.

No. 63—GLASGOW Mossgiel Burns Club. Instituted 11th April, 1893. Federated 16th November, 1893. Place and date of meeting, Anderson's, 3 Cathcart Street, Gorbals, first Tuesday of each month from November till April. President, John Sanders, 16 Frankfort Street, Shawlands; Vice-president, William Morrison, 86 Cumberland Street, S.S.; *Secretary and Treasurer*, James M. Blair, 162 Hospital Street. Special features of Club—The encouragement of Scottish Literature, the celebration of the immortal memory of the Poet, and an annual trip to the Land of Burns.

No. 64—BEITH Burns Club. Federated 12th December, 1893. Place of meeting, Anderson Hotel. President, James Welsh, Fernbank, Beith; Vice-president, Wm. C. Wilson, Ingleside, Beith; *Secretary*, Neil M'Innes, Grahamfield Place, Beith; Treasurer, John Short, Main Street, Beith.

No. 65—MUSSELBURGH Federated Burns Club. Instituted 1886. Federated 1894. Place and date of meeting, Central Assembly Rooms, 25th January. President, John Young, Inveresk House, Musselburgh; Vice-president, Will. Constable, 84 Inveresk Road, Musselburgh; *Hon. Secretary*, A. B. Hall, 10 Windsor Gardens, Musselburgh; Hon. Treasurer, Wm. Paterson, 1 Newbigging, Musselburgh. Committee—John Dobbie, A. W. Millar, James Kinnaird, J. E. Brooks, R. S. Stewart, James Williamson, W. C. M'Gregor, P. S. Blair, and W. B. Gardiner. Special features of the Club—Competitions for school children. Membership about 200.

No. 66—CROSSGATES Burns Club. Federated 1894. *Secretary*, Robert Dall, Addison's Buildings, Crossgates.

No. 67—CARLTON Burns Club. Instituted 1894. Federated 1894. Place and date of meeting, Sloan's Arcade Café, 108 Argyle Street, Glasgow, first Tuesday monthly, October to April. President, Andrew Maclure, 10 South Portland Street, Glasgow; Vice-president, David Davidson, 13 St. Andrew's Square, Glasgow; *Secretary*, Wm. J. Straiton, 600 Dalmarnock Road, Glasgow; Treasurer, William Renfrew. Committee—George Stark, James Ballantyne, James Tudhope, William Moffatt, William Thomson, Jno. Ballantyne, D. M. Duff, D. M'Neil, D. Gilmour, W. G. M'Leod, R. M'Kenzie, C. W. C. M'Farlane, and C. Taylor. Special features of the Club—Literary and social.

No. 68—SANDYFORD Burns Club. Instituted 1893. Federated 1894. Place of meeting, Secretary's Office, 100 West Regent Street, Glasgow. President, Andrew Gemmell, 62 Kelvingrove Street, Glasgow; Vice-president, James Michie, 58 Claremont Street, Glasgow; *Secretary*, Andrew P. Hamilton, writer, 100 West Regent Street, Glasgow; Treasurer, James P. M'Phie, 6 Bishop Street, Anderston, Glasgow. Special features of the Club—Annual dinner and dance on 25th January; also lectures and social and musical evenings in Grand Hotel, Glasgow.

No. 69—DUNEDIN Burns Club. Federated 1894. President, R. Sandilands, Queen's Drive, Musselburgh, Dunedin, N.Z.

No. 70—GLASGOW St. Rollox Jolly Beggars' Burns Club (dormant). Federated 1894.

No. 71—CARLISLE Burns Club. Instituted 25th January, 1889. Federated 1895. Place and time of meeting, Great Central Hotel, Carlisle, 8 p.m. President, James Watt, J.P., Knowefield, Carlisle; Vice-president, James Malcolm, Gowanlea, Harraby, Carlisle; *Secretary*, John Jardine, 20 Broad Street, Carlisle; Walter A. Mather, Midland Bank Chambers, Carlisle. Special features of the Club—Literary.

No. 72—PARTICK Burns Club. Federated 1895. *Secretary*, William Scott Wyllie, writer, 149 St. Vincent Street, Glasgow.

No. 73—LENZIE Burns Club (dormant). Federated 1896.

No. 74—GLASGOW Mauchline Society. Instituted 1888. Federated 1895. President, Rev. Wilson Baird, Mauchline; Treasurer, Thomas Killin, 168 West George Street, Glasgow; *Secretary*, William Campbell, 166 Buchanan Street, Glasgow.

No. 75—KIRN Burns Club. Instituted 25th January, 1892. Federated 10th February, 1896. Place and date of meeting, Kirn Hotel, 25th January. President, John J. Ferguson, Ardmhor, Kirn; Vice-president, Councillor Dunbar, Kintills Terrace, East Bay, Dunoon; *Secretary*, John Macnair, house agent, Kirn; Treasurer, Councillor Lees, Wellmeadow, Kirn. Committee—J. R. Ferguson, R. Nicholson, R. Brown, D. M'Kellar, and Dr Henderson. Special features of Club—Singing and reciting competitions for boys and girls, from the works of Burns; debating and recreation branch every Monday evening in Argyll Hall, Kirn.

No. 76—BRECHIN Burns Club. Instituted January, 1894. Federated 7th March, 1896. Place and date of meeting, Corona Hall, Brechin, 25th January. President, William Anderson, solicitor, 2 Airlie Street, Brechin; Vice-president, Charles Thomson, Eastbank, Brechin; *Joint Secretaries and Treasurers*, F. C. Anderson, 10 St. Mary Street, Brechin, and David Edwards, jr., Eastbank, Brechin.

No. 77—PAISLEY Tannahill (Gleniffer) Burns Club. Instituted 1892. Federated 1896. *Secretary*, Thomas Campbell, 19 Kilnside Road, Paisley.

No. 78—GLASGOW Ardgowan Burns Club (dormant). Instituted 1893. Federated 1896. *Secretary*, John Fairley, 160 Cathcart Street, Kingston, Glasgow.

No. 79—CORSTORPHINE Burns Club. Instituted 1887. Federated 1896. Place and time of meeting, Public Hall, March, November, and 25th January, at 8 p.m. President, Dr James Shoolbread, 5 Roxburgh Street, Edinburgh; Vice-president, John Ramage, Ormiston Terrace, Corstorphine; *Secretary*, William Wilson, 2 Belgrave Terrace, Corstorphine; Bard, Charles S. Smith. Committee of 8 members. Special features of the Club—Two quarterly meetings, at which a paper is read, and afterwards social, Burns's songs, etc. Anniversary dinner, 25th January.

No. 80—DUNOON Cowal Burns Club. Instituted 1896. Federated 1896. *Secretary*, Walter Grieve, James Place, Dunoon.

No. 81—CARSTAIRS Junction Burns Club. Instituted 1896. Federated 1896. *Secretary*, William Neill, Burnside Cottages, Carstairs Junction.

No. 82—ARBROATH Burns Club. Instituted 1888. Federated 1896. *Secretary*, Harry Lorimer, solicitor, 25 Market Place, Arbroath.

No. 83—GLASGOW Co-operative Burns Club. Instituted 1896. Federated 1896. Place and date of meeting, Sloan's Arcade Café, Argyle Street, Glasgow, first Saturday of each month, 7.30 p.m. President, J. Jeffrey Hunter, 109 Bath Street, Glasgow ; Vice-president, Thomas Rough, 249 Main Street, Bridgeton ; *Secretary*, H. Kelly, 5 Greenlodge Terrace, Greenhead, Glasgow. Special features of the Club—Monthly literary and musical evenings.

No. 84—ABINGTON Burns Club (dormant). Federated 1896.

No. 85—DUNFERMLINE United Burns Club. Instituted 1812. Federated 12th Nov., 1896. Place and date of meeting, Royal Hotel, Dunfermline, 25th January. President, W. D. Imrie, Abbey Park Place, Dunfermline ; Vice-president Wm. Black, Charlestown, Dunfermline ; *Secretary*, P. Paterson, 23 Bruce Street, Dunfermline. Committee—A. T. Wilkie, R. Taylor, C. E. Livingston, Andrew Roxburgh, James Rodger, Bailie James Stewart, Thomas Don, Wm. Fitzpatrick.

No. 86—CUMNOCK Winsome Willie. Instituted 1856. Federated 1896. Place and date of meeting, Hotel Royal, Cumnock, 7 p.m. President, Robert Hislop, Waterside Place, Cumnock ; Vice-president, Douglas M. Clark, Tower Street, Cumnock ; *Secretary*, Hugh Campbell, 43 Barrhill Road, Cumnock ; Treasurer, Gilbert M'Kissock, Kilnholm Place, Cumnock.

No. 87—CAMPSIE Burns Club. Instituted 1890. Federated 1896. Place and date of meeting, Lennox Arms, last Saturday of each month from September to April, 7.30 p.m. *Secretary*, R. W. Robertson, Russell Place, Lennoxtown.

No. 88—GLASGOW "Caledonian" Burns Club. Instituted October, 1896. Federated 2nd March, 1897. Place of meeting, 25 Caledonia Road. *Secretary*, John Muirhead, c/o Drummond, 136 Roslea Drive, Glasgow.

No. 89—SUNDERLAND Burns Club. Instituted January, 1897. Federated April, 1897. Place and date of meeting, Grand Hotel, first and third Wednesday October to March, first Wednesday April, May, and September. President, Dr James Waterston, J.P., Frederick Street ; Vice-president, Mr James Donald, 58 General Gordon Terrace ; *Secretary*, M. Neilson, 14 Whickham Street, E. Sunderland ; Treasurer, M. MacLennan ; Librarian, G. Mackay ; Auditor, W. P. Eastwood ; Piper, G. Murray. Committee—W. H. Turner, J. F. Crooks, W. P. Eastwood, A. W. Semple, D. Condie. Special features of the Club—Reading of papers, lectures, annual Scottish concert, anniversary dinner, visitation of Clubs in the north of England. 61 Members.

No. 90—GARELOCHHEAD Burns Club. Instituted 18th November, 1895. Federated 21st May, 1897. Place and date of meeting, the Hotel, Garelochhead. President, Stuart K. Turnbull, Aikenshaw, Rahaw ; Vice-president, Rev. John Patterson, The Manse, Garelochhead ; *Secretary*, John Douglas, Dahlandhui, Garelochhead.

No. 91—SHETTLESTON Burns Club. Instituted 25th January, 1897. Federated 18th August, 1897. Last *Secretary*, Robert G. Chrystal, 221 Westmuir Street, Parkhead, Glasgow.

No. 92—KILBOWIE "Jolly Beggars" Burns Club. Instituted August, 1897. Federated August 26th, 1897. Place and date of meeting, Cross Restaurant, 1st Thursday each month, at 8 p.m. President, Alexander Macdonald, 53 Montrose Street, Kilbowie; Vice-president, William Paterson, 2 Livingstone Street, Clydebank; *Secretary*, Leonard Trew, 38 Second Avenue, Kilbowie; Treasurer, J. Agnew. Committee—William Allan (Chairman), D. M'Williams, J. Dickson, P. Delacourt, J. Richardson, J. Seright. Special features of the Club—The study of Burns's Works and other Scottish literature; also other poets.

No. 93—CLYDEBANK Burns Club. Federated 1897.

No. 94—UPHALL Tam o' Shanter Burns Club. Federated 1897.

No. 95—BOLTON Burns Club. Instituted 6th September, 1881. Federated 1897. *Secretary*, Charles H. Mallison, Oaklands, Seymour Road, Bolton.

No. 96—JEDBURGH Burns Club. Instituted 1869. Federated 13th Nov., 1897. *Secretary*, Peter Telfer, 58 Castlegate, Jedburgh.

No. 97—KILMARNOCK Bellfield Burns Club. Instituted 1895. Federated 1898. Place and time of meeting, Bellfield Tavern, 1st Friday of month at 8 o'clock. Hon. President, Daniel Picken; Hon. Vice-president, John Borland; President, James Neilson, 34 Robertson Place, Kilmarnock; Vice-president, James Eccles, 14 Kirktonholm Street, Kilmarnock; *Secretary*, William Lennox, 11 Nursery Avenue, Kilmarnock; Treasurer, Boyd Murray; Chaplain, Wm. Cooper. Committee—A. Cook, A. Craig, W. Brown, T. Neilson, and T. Hamilton. Special features of Club—To encourage the cultivation of a better knowledge of the Poet and his works; to celebrate the birthday of the Poet, by a social festival; lectures at the monthly meetings from October to May inclusive; rambles during the summer months; the promotion of social and friendly intercourse amongst its members and friends.

No. 98—LANARK Burns Club. Instituted 1891. Federated 17th January, 1898. Place and date of meeting, Market Hotel, quarterly. President, Councillor Thomas Lithgow, Furrowflat, Lanark; Vice-president, James M. Cassels, Ravenscroft; *Secretary*, Geo. C. Arnott, *Advertiser* Office, Lanark; Treasurer, Robert Martin, Wellgate. Special features of Club—Public lectures during winter months, by well known Burns students; annual competitions amongst children attending the schools; permanent juvenile choir of 40 voices, for the study of Burns songs.

No. 99—GLASGOW Barlinnie Burns Club (dormant). Federated 1898.

No. 100—HAMILTON Mossgiel Burns Club. Instituted 1892. Federated 4th April, 1898. Place and date of meeting, Royal Hotel, first Thursday in month, 8.15 p.m. President, Archibald Clark, jun., Quarry Street, Hamilton; Vice-president, John D. Lightbody, Ardenlee, Portland Park, Hamilton; *Secretary*, William Hindshaw, 14 Regent Street, Hamilton; Treasurer, William Hamilton, Burnfoot, Hamilton. Committee—John Campbell, Wm. Maxwell, Wm. Stevenson, George Thorpe, Tom Brown. Wm. Stewart, and John Law. Special features of the Club—Essays and discussions on Burns's works; special course of lectures during winter months; anniversary celebration; and annual excursion.

No. 101—MOTHERWELL Workmen's Burns Club. Federated 1898. *Secretary*, John King, 128 Muir Street, Motherwell.

No. 102—CARLISLE Border Burns Club (dormant). Federated 1898. Last *Secretary*, Andrew Rafell, 36 London Road, Carlisle.

No. 103—COALBURN Burns Club. Federated 1898. *Secretary*, John Woodburn, Coalburn Inn, Coalburn.

No. 104—DUMFRIES Oak Burns Club. Federated 1898. *Secretary*, Thomas Haining, jr., 26 Swan's Vennel, Dumfries.

No. 105—RUTHERGLEN Cronie Burns Club. Instituted 1896. Federated 1898. Place and date of meeting, Burnhill Rest, last Friday of every month. President, Wm. Stewart, 24 Westmuir Place, Rutherglen; Vice-president, Walter Sharp, 2 Millcroft Row, Rutherglen Road, S.S., Glasgow; *Secretary*, David M'Quaker, 816 Rutherglen Road, S.S., Glasgow.

No. 106—BROXBURN Rosebery Burns Club. Federated 1898. *Secretary*, Joseph Millar, Ashfield Buildings, Uphall.

No. 107—GLASGOW Hutchesontown Burns Club (dormant). Federated 1898.

No. 108—EAST CALDER and District "Jolly Beggars" Burns Club. Instituted 3rd February, 1897. Federated 17th January, 1899. Place and time of meeting, Grapes Inn, East Calder, at 8 o'clock. President, William Young, newsagent, East Calder; Vice-president, James Miller, Church Buildings, East Calder; *Secretary*, George Young, Limefield Cottage, East Calder; Treasurer, John Reid. Committee—A. H. Stark, James Robertson, Alexander Taylor, L. Dickson, A. Baxter, A. Newbiggin. Special features of the Club—To study Burns and his Works.

No. 109—GLASGOW Caledonia Burns Club. Instituted September, 1898. Federated 24th March, 1899. President, James Mearchent, 136 Govan Street, S.S., Glasgow; Vice-president, Thomas Stark, 9 Castle Terrace, Cathcart; *Secretary*, William Galloway, 77 Preston Street, Govanhill; Treasurer, William Burns. Special features of the Club—To foster an intimate acquaintance with the works of Burns.

No. 110—CAMBUSLANG Burns Club. Instituted 1850. Federated 1898. *Secretary*, James Robertson, Monkcastle Drive, Cambuslang.

No. 111—SOUTH EDINBURGH Burns Club. Instituted 1879. Federated 1899. *Secretary*, John S. T. Walker, 1 Summerbank, Edinburgh.

No 112—DUMFRIES Burns Howff Club. Instituted 1889. Federated 10th August, 1899. Place and date of meeting, Globe Hotel, monthly. President, T. Robertson, plasterer, Dockhead, Dumfries; Vice-president, J. Houston, painter, High Street, Dumfries; *Secretary*, Jno. Connor, 61 St. Michael Street, Dumfries. Committee—J. Bell, J. W. Howat, J. Grierson, T. Graig, J. Dickson, T. Batey, J. M'Allister, E. Campbell, J. Maxwell, A. Cochrane, R. Kerr, and J. Richardson.

No. 113—VALE OF LEVEN, Glencairn. Instituted 1897. Federated 1899. Place and date of meeting, Albert Hotel, Alexandria, last Saturday of each month at 7.30. Hon. President, William White, 44 Bridge Street, Alexandria; President, Alex. Campbell, Hillbank, Bonhill; Vice-president, James M'Innes, Napierstown Terrace, Jamestown; *Secretary*, Daniel M'Millan, 38 Wilson Street, Alexandria, N.B.; Treasurer, William Smith, Croftholm, Bonhill. Special features of the Club—Celebration of 25th January, summer outing, and occasionally short papers read by members.

No. 114—BRODICK Burns Club. Instituted 1899. Federated 1900. *Secretary*, John S. Currie, Brodick.

No. 115—KIPPEN and District Burns Club. Instituted 21st July, 1896. Federated 20th January, 1900. Place of meeting, Gillespie Memorial Hall. *Secretary*, Samuel Thomson, Pointend, Kippen.

No. 116—GREENLOANING Burns Club. Instituted 1889. Federated 1900. Place and time of meeting, Greenloaning Inn, 25th January, at 7.30 p.m. President, Thomas Stewart, The Braes, Greenloaning, Braco; Vice-president, Francis Sands, Glenbank, Greenloaning, Braco; *Secretary*, James Bayne, Kinbuck, Dunblane. Committee—J. M'Laren, W. Blair, J. Shearer, G. Robertson, J. M'Naughton, and W. Taylor

No. 117—GLASGOW Southern Burns Club (dormant). Instituted 1899. Federated 1900.

No. 118—GLASGOW Albany Burns Club. Instituted 1900. Federated 1900. Place and time of meeting, White & Smith's Trades' House Restaurant, 89 Glassford Street, Glasgow, 1st Wednesday each month, from October till March, at 7.30 till 10 p.m. President, Ninian MacWhannell, 58 West Regent Street, Glasgow; Vice-presidents, Archibald Norval, 23 Barrington Drive, off Great Western Road, Glasgow; and John A. Headrick, 4 Keir Terrace, Pollokshields, Glasgow; *Secretary*, Robert Carmichael, 89 Elderslie Street, Sandyford, Glasgow; Treasurer, Alexander Gray, 67 Great Hamilton Street, Glasgow. Directors—John Grant, R. D. Donaldson, James Raeside, George Gillies, John Drennan, and R. K. Philson; Past Presidents, Robert Goodall, James Taylor, J. Wilson Bain, Thomas Kennedy, and John Brown. Special features of the Club—Lectures and harmony, and to cultivate a knowledge of the Works of Burns among school children, in connection with which a competition is held yearly, and medals and volumes given to the successful competitors. Membership limited to 150.

No. 119—BONHILL Burns Club. Instituted 1900. Federated 1900. *Secretary*, George Moir, 75 Dillichip Loan, Bonhill.

No. 120—BRISTOL Caledonian Society. Instituted 1820. Federated 1900. Annual meeting in October. President, Henry L. Riseley, 3 Cecil Road, Clifton, Bristol; *Secretary*, John Bennet, 25 Bridge Street, Bristol.

No. 121—HAMILTON Junior Burns Club. Instituted September, 1886. Federated April, 1901. Place and date of meeting, Robert Bell's, Union Street, Hamilton. President, John M'Millan, 42 Chapel Street, Hamilton; Vice-president, James Brown, 61 Quarry Street, Hamilton; *Secretary*, William Wilson, 27 Duke Street, Hamilton; Treasurer, John Stewart; Minute Secretary, A. Thomson; Steward, J. Gourlay. Committee—J. M'Ewan, J. Welsh, and A. Dickson. Special features of the Club—Reading of essays on various subjects, concerts, competitions, summer rambles, and social evenings. 30 members.

No. 122—DARNCONNER Aird's Moss Burns Club. Instituted 1901. Federated 1901. Place and date of meeting, Sorn, 25th January. *Secretary*, Andrew Stevenson, Glenlogan, Sorn, Mauchline.

No. 123—BOSWELL Burns Club. Instituted 25th January, 1900. Federated 10th December, 1901. Place and date of meeting, Boswell Arms, last Saturday of every month, at 7 p.m. President, Matthew Wallace, Coal Road, Auchinleck; Vice-president, P. C.

George M'Comb, Townhead, Auchinleck ; *Secretary*, William Hall, High House, Auchinleck ; Treasurer, Robert M'Millan, Townfoot, Auchinleck. Special features of Club—Halloween, 31st October ; and Birth of Poet, 25th January.

No. 124—EDINBURGH Ninety Burns Club. Instituted 1890. Federated 1902. President, Thomas Agnew, 26 Eyre Crescent, Edinburgh ; Vice-president, Matthew Murray, 19 Crighton Place, Edinburgh ; *Secretary*, R. D. Grant M'Laren, 12 Mayfield Road, Edinburgh ; Treasurer, John Munro, 85 Shandwick Place, Edinburgh. Committee—R. Burns Brown, J. Hewat, John Currie, A. F. B. Lawrence, George Wm. Taylor.

No. 125—BLACKBURN-ON-ALMOND Rabbie Burns Club. Instituted 1900. Federated 1902. Place and date of meeting, Almond Inn, first Thursday of month from October to April. President, Alex. Gardiner, Knowehead, Blackburn, Bathgate ; Vice-president, David Anderson, East End, Blackburn, Bathgate ; *Secretary*, Samuel Bostock, Margaret's Cottages, Blackburn, Bathgate. Committee—James Robb, Alex. Pate, Robert Carlyle, George Douglas, Peter Briton. Special features of the Club—Annual dinner on January 25th, social last Friday in March, with singing and reciting competitions on Burns's works for school children.

No. 126—FALKIRK Burns Club. Instituted 1866. Federated 1902. Place of meeting, Mathieson's Rooms. President, Dr Mitchell, Dunoran, Camelon ; Vice-presidents, Sheriff Moffatt and Provost Christie, J.P., Falkirk ; *Secretary*, H. B. Watson, Broompark, Falkirk ; Treasurer, ex-Bailie Whyte, J.P. Committee—R. H. Lochhead, J.P., Fred. Johnston, J.P., D. P. Black, Major F. D. Ferguson, and T. C. Wade, L.L.B. Special features of the Club—Annual dinner, January 25th ; half-yearly literary meetings, open to lady friends ; and annual outing to some literary shrine in summer.

No. 127—COWDENBEATH Haggis Burns Club. Instituted January, 1903. Federated November 7th, 1903. Date of meeting, Monday, 7.30. President, William Miller, Glen View Cottages ; Vice-presidents, Robert Paterson, North Road, and J. Bain, Hall Street, Cowdenbeath ; *Secretary*, James Petrie, 87 High Street, Cowdenbeath. Committee—D. Jamieson, A. Campbell, W. Simpson, T. Lark, and H. Philip.

No. 128—GLENCAIRN Burns Club. Instituted 1898. Federated 14th May, 1903. Place and date of meeting, Raith Arms Inn, Thursday night at 8 p.m. President, Duncan Beaton, Bridge Street, Cowdenbeath ; Vice-president, Richard Innes, Aurther Place, Cowdenbeath ; *Secretary*, William Breingan, Raith Arms Inn, Cowdenbeath ; Treasurer, Thomas Ferguson, Stenhouse Street. Committee—David Todd, David Walls, Daniel Hutchison, John Falconer, and Peter Falconer. Special feature of Club—To keep alive the memory of Scotland's greatest Bard, Robert Burns.

No. 129—GORBALS Burns Club. Instituted 1902. Federated 1903. President, Bailie Archibald Campbell ; Vice-president, James Milligan ; *Secretary and Treasurer*, Andrew Aitken, solicitor, 212 Bath Street, Glasgow. Special features of Club—To foster and encourage the study of the works of our national Bard and to promote social and intellectual intercourse among the members.

No. 130—ROW Burns Club. Instituted 6th February, 1902. Federated 1903. Place and date of meeting, Colquhoun Arms, January, June, October, at 8 p.m. President, Major John M'Farlane, 1

West Clyde Street, Helensburgh; Vice-presidents, N. M. M'Leod, Fiunary, Shandon; Captain G. S. Deverell, R.N., Clyde Training Ship *Empress*, Row; *Secretary*, Robert Sloan, Greenside Cottage, Row; Treasurer, George Walker, Laggray Lodge, Row. Special features of the Club—Social intercourse among its members.

No. 131. NOTTINGHAM Scottish Association. Instituted October, 1902. Federated November, 1903. Place and date of meeting, Mechanics' Institution, Room 75, fortnightly on Tuesdays from October to March inclusive. President, Dr W. Hunter, Bridgeway House, Arkwright Street; Vice-presidents, J. Crawford, The Old Rectory, Bulwell, and G. A. Mitchell, 275 Woodborourgh Road; Treasurer, G. E. Bain, The Capital and Counties' Bank, Ltd., Market Place; *Secretaries*, J. G. Simpson, 54 Dryden Street, and M. J. Kay, 22 Gauntley Street; Auditors, R. Burns, C.A., and A. M'Gougan. Council—J. Chapman, A. Crawford, J. Currie, H. Docharty. Dr Thomson Henderson, W. R. Hamilton, D. Macadie, D. Macgregor, Dr J. Millar, J. M'Meeking, J. S. M'William, E. Merson, N. C. Stewart, and Dr J. Watson. Special features of the Club—Social intercourse among members.

No. 132—RICCARTON Kirkstyle Burns Club. Instituted January, 1904. Federated 16th Nov. 1904. President, Thos. Brown, 13 Hurlford Road; Vice-president, Wm. Lumsden, James Little Street, Kilmarnock; *Secretary*, Arch. Young, 88 Campbell Street, Riccarton, Kilmarnock.

No. 133—NEWARTHILL Burns Club. Instituted 26th Sept., 1903. Federated 28th March, 1904. Place and date of meeting, Miss Janet Wyper's, last Saturday of every month. President, John Henshaw, North Road, Newarthill, Motherwell; Vice-president, Robert Henderson, Muir's Land, Newarthill, Motherwell; *Secretary*, George Cook, Young's Place, Newarthill, Motherwell; Treasurer, George Cook. Committee—J. Lafferty, J. Millar, J. Sneddon, T. Crombie. Special features of the Club—To promote social intercourse among its members by means of songs, recitations, essays, &c., annual concert, and competition with school children in singing and reciting the works of the Poet.

No. 134—"THE HERON" Burns Club, Duntocher. Instituted 18th November, 1897. Federated 7th April, 1904. *Secretary*, R. R. Chalmers, Main Street, Duntocher.

No. 135—PARTICK Western Burns Club. Instituted 1903. Federated 1904. Place of meeting, Windsor Restaurant, Partick. President, D. Menzies, 1 Cluny Villas, Jordanhill; Vice-president, Hugh M'Coll, 254 Bath Street, Glasgow; *Secretary*, John E. Shaw, 3 Ardery Street, Partick. Committee—M. Bertram, J. A. Biggs, G. Campbell, W. Craig, A. Duthie, A. Ferguson, D. Ferguson, I. Hislop, F. Jones, J. L. M'Cay, B. C. M'Donald, D. Macneish, A. Monat, J. Newall, G. Sievewright, D. Simpson, J. D. Smith, A. A. Stewart, John Stewart, E. Tough, James Webster.

No. 136—HAMILTON Royal Oak Burns Club. Instituted 1898. Federated 6th June, 1904. *Secretary*, Robt. Brownlie, 7 Downie Street, Lowwaters, Hamilton.

No. 137—IPSWICH Burns Club. Instituted 12th February, 1902. Federated 1st November, 1904. Place and date of meeting, Fox Hotel, Ipswich, first Tuesday in every month, at 8 p.m. President, William Morrison, Courtland Villa, Nacton Road, Ipswich: Vice-

president, James Campbell, Broomhill Road, Ipswich ; *Secretary*, S. Dobbin, Fox Hotel, Brook Street, Ipswich ; Pipers, W. D. M'Laren and W. Garlack. Special features of Club—Monthly meetings and open concerts ; St. Andrew's Night and Burns Night.

No. 138—CLELAND Burns Club. Instituted 19th October, 1904. Federated 22nd November, 1904. *Secretary*, Robert M'Millan, Hornshill, Cleland.

No. 139—NATIONAL Burns Club (Limited). Instituted 1904. Federated 1904. Place of meeting, Club Rooms, 93 Douglas Street. President, James Ballantyne, 21 Rose Street, Garnethill ; Vice-president, John Carmichael, 27 Blythswood Drive ; *Secretary and Treasurer*, Joseph Martin, solicitor, 163 West George Street.

No. 140—POLLOKSHAWS Burns Club. Instituted 1865. Federated 1905. Place and date of meeting, Burgh Halls, Pollokshaws, at 7.30. President, County Councillor Andrew M'Callum, 35 Harriet Street, Pollokshaws ; Vice-president, Geo. C. Mearns, Auldfield Place, Pollokshaws ; *Secretary*, James Milne, Burgh Halls, Pollokshaws.

No. 141—STONEHOUSE Burns Club. Instituted 1904. Federated 1905. Place and time of meeting, Buck's Head Inn, Saturdays at 7.30. President, James Burke, New Street, Stonehouse ; Vice-president, R. Frew, 7 Lockhart Street, Stonehouse ; *Secretary*, James Graham, 58 New Street, Stonehouse ; Treasurer, James Whitelaw, Alexandria Terrace, Green Street, Stonehouse.

No. 142—BONNYBRIDGE Burns Club. Instituted 10th January, 1905. Federated 22nd February, 1905. Place of meeting, Co-operative Hall, Bonnybridge. *Secretary*, John Towers, Allanhill Cottage, Bonnybridge.

No. 143—AIRDRIE Gateside Burns Club. Instituted 6th November, 1904. Federated 1st May, 1905. *Secretary*, Alex. W. Ritchie, Laurel Bank, Queen Victoria Street, Airdrie.

No. 144—LARBERT and STENHOUSEMUIR Temperance Burns Club. Instituted 1904. Federated 1905. *Secretary*, John Richardson, Annslea, South Broomage, Larbert.

No. 145—GLASGOW Central Burns Club and Literary Institute, Limited. Instituted 1905. Federated August, 1905. Place of meeting, 42 Argyle Street. President, Harry Baillie ; Treasurer, John Kinney ; *Secretary*, W. D. M'Laren, 42 Argyle Street, Glasgow.

No. 146—DUBLIN Burns Club. Instituted 1905. Federated 1905. Place and date of meeting, Grand Hotel and Restaurant, daily (except Sundays). President, Thomas A. Stodart, 16 Northumberland Road, Dublin ; *Secretary*, John Farquhar, 21 Windsor Avenue, Fairview, Dublin ; Treasurer, Alex. Lyon, 111 Botanic Road, Glasenvin, Dublin. Special features of the Club—The perpetuity of the memory of Robert Burns by the celebration of his birthday and otherwise, and for the intellectual improvement as well as the social intercourse and enjoyment of its members.

No. 147—STONEHOUSE Haggis Burns Club. Federated 28th October, 1905. *Secretary*, R. Whitelaw, 22 Camnethan Street, Stonehouse.

No. 148—GREENOCK Cronies Burns Club. Instituted January, 1899. Federated 9th November, 1905. Place and date of meeting, Queen's Rooms, Hamilton Street, first Wednesday in month,

September to April. President. William Brand, 36 West Stewart Street, Greenock; Vice-president, Alex. Agnew, 34 Inverkip Street, Greenock; *Secretary*, Hugh Cammack, 7 Carwood Street, Greenock; Treasurer, Wm. Burnside, 25 Bruce Street, Greenock. Special features of the Club—To cherish the name of Robert Burns and foster a love for his writings, and generally to promote good-fellowship.

No. 149—ELGIN Burns Club. Instituted 1900. Federated 1905. Place of meeting, Gordon Arms Hotel. Hon. President, Sheriff Dunlop; President, John Wittet, architect, Elgin; Vice-presidents, J. W. Brodie Innes and W. W. M'Kechnie; *Secretary*, John Foster, Sheriff-Clerk, Elgin; Treasurer, J. B. Mair, Chief-Constable, Elgin; Hon. Piper, J. Grant-Smith, Elgin.

No. 150—KILMARNOCK Jolly Beggars Burns Club. Instituted January, 1905. Federated December, 1905. Place and date of meeting, "Wee Thack," Grange Street, first Monday of each month. Hon. Presidents, Archibald Laird and Alexander Kerr. President, Parish Councillor Sinclair, 65 M'Lelland Drive; Vice-president, James Queay, 10 Gibson Street; *Secretary*, Robert J. Green, 58 Park Street. Special features of the Club—Rambles through the Land of Burns, annual picnic with ladies, and annual at-home with wives and sweethearts. Also, lectures during winter months, to encourage the cultivation of a better knowledge of the Poet and his Works, and the promotion of intercourse amongst the members and kindred clubs.

No. 151—OLD KILPATRICK Burns Club. Instituted January, 1903. Federated January 20th, 1906. Place and date of meeting, Barclay U.F. Church Hall. Hon. Presidents—William A. Baird, Esq., Erskine House, Bishopton; County Councillor Filshie, Mount Pleasant, Old Kilpatrick; Rev. Robert Munro, Free Church Manse, Old Kilpatrick; Thomas G. Forbes, Esq., Gavinburn Schoolhouse. President, Thomas Struthers, Station House, Old Kilpatrick; Vice-president, D. Drummond Cairns, 57 Mitchell Street, Glasgow; *Secretary*, Robert Smith, Gateside, Old Kilpatrick; Treasurer, John Brock. Committee—Thomas Kempton, Alex. Mann, Wm. M'Lure, James Retson, James Jenkins, Wm. Gallacher, John Struthers, and James Howard. Special features of the Club—Course of lectures, children's competition, and thorough study of Burns's life and other Poets.

No. 152—HAMILTON Burns Club. Instituted 1877. Federated 1906. Place and date of meeting, Commercial Hotel, Hamilton, monthly during winter. President, Sheriff Thomson, Oakenshaw, Hamilton; Vice-president, G. K. Muir, Bank of Scotland House, Hamilton; *Secretary*, Peter Anderson, Rowanlea, Hamilton; Treasurer, Major W. M. Kay, Craigton Lodge, Hamilton; Auditor, Thomas Mitchell. Directors—Messrs A. Patrick Smith, James Lochhead, Walter Watson, James M'Laren, Matthew Campbell, and J. D. Rankin. Special features of the Club—Lectures at the monthly meetings; prizes are offered for competition in the Burgh Schools for proficiency in Scottish literature.

No. 153—GLASGOW Scottish Burns Club. Instituted 25th January, 1904. Federated 27th February, 1906. Place and date of meeting, 60 Union Street, Glasgow, first Thursday of each month, at 7.30 p.m. President, Thomas R. Park, 15 Oswald Street, Glasgow; Vice-presidents. John Wilson, 83 Jamaica Street, Glasgow, and John S. Gilchrist, 20 Marlborough Gardens, Old Cathcart; *Secretary*,

Jas. Macfarlane, 11 Hampden Terrace, Mount Florida, Glasgow. Special features of Club—Literary, musical, and social, with a special view to the better knowledge of Scottish literature.

No. 154—JOHANNESBURG Burns Club. Instituted 1900. Federated 1906. *Secretary*, Mr Richard Rusk, solicitor, Natal Bank Buildings, Market Square, Johannesburg.

No. 155—EAST STIRLINGSHIRE Burns Club. Instituted 25th January, 1905. Federated 1st September, 1906. Place of meeting, Cross Roads Inn, Bainsford, quarterly. President, John Duncan Silcock, 13 Gordon Terrace, Carron Road, Falkirk; Vice-president, Wm. Galbraith, M'Callum Terrace, Carron Road, Falkirk; *Secretary*, Alex. Glen, 12 Gordon Terrace, Carron Road, Falkirk; Treasurer, Wm. Morrison. Committee—John Dow, George Eadie, James M'Williams, James Adams, Alex. Cruickshanks. Special features of the Club—To foster and maintain an intimate and thorough knowledge of the life and Works of Burns; to celebrate the Anniversary of his birth in supper, song, and sentiment; and to propagate and encourage a kind, social, and brotherly feeling one towards another.

No. 156—NEWCASTLE and TYNESIDE Burns Club. Instituted 1864. Federated 4th October, 1906. Place of meeting, Central Exchange Hotel. President, Dr J. D. Farquharson, 242 Westgate Road, Newcastle-on-Tyne; Vice-president, James Arnott, 9 Eslington Terrace, Newcastle-on-Tyne; *Secretary*, W. H. Blackstock, 22 Nelson Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne; Treasurer, William Maxwell, 80 Osborne Road, Newcastle-on-Tyne. Special features of the Club—Keeping in touch with Burns, and fostering the spirit, "Shall brithers be for a' that."

No. 157—BAILLIESTON CALEDONIAN Burns Club. Instituted 1901. Federated 5th October, 1906. Place and date of meeting, Reid's Hall, first Monday of each month, at 7.30 p.m. President, James Adams, 68A Main Street, Baillieston; Vice-president, James Russell, 54 Clydesdale Place, Baillieston; *Secretary*—Charles Paterson, 37 Muirside Road, Baillieston; Treasurer, Peter Greenshields. Committee—G. Tait, T. Waugh, J. Young, D. Pender, T. Reid, and T. Glen. Special features of the Club—To encourage the cultivation of a better knowledge of Robert Burns and his Works, and to celebrate the anniversary of his birth in supper, song, and sentiment.

No. 158—DARLINGTON Burns Association. Instituted 8th March, 1906. Federated 18th October, 1906. Place and date of meeting, Temperance Institute (average fortnightly during winter—no fixed night). President, Philip Wood, M.A., Grammar School, Darlington; Vice-presidents, William Forster, J.P., John Henderson, and John M. Galt; *Secretary*, R. M. Liddell, 37 Langholm Crescent, Darlington; Assistant Secretary, R. G. Brebner; Treasurer, George Lawson. Committee—Dr Munro, Gavin Struthers, Wm. Stevenson, John C. Veitch, John M'Gregor, James Shirlaw, Wm. Bulloch, Wm. Dobson, and Wm. Coates. Special features of the Club—Series of lectures, to which friends (including ladies) are invited); annual Scottish concert; annual social gathering; anniversary dinner.

No. 159—WALKER (Newcastle-on-Tyne) Burns Club. Federated 11th November, 1906. Place and date of meeting, Stack Hotel, Thursdays fortnightly. President, John M'Kay, Welbeck Road,

Walker, Newcastle ; Vice-president, John Keith, Welbeck Road, Walker, Newcastle ; *Secretary*, Henry F. Caldwell, 571 Welbeck Road, Walker, Newcastle ; Treasurer, Robert M'Rory, Eastbourne Avenue, Walker, Newcastle. Special features of Club—To cultivate better friendship amongst Scotchmen, and especially to spread a knowledge of our national Poet, his songs, and works amongst his admirers, &c.

No. 160—WHITBURN Burns Club. Instituted 23rd February, 1906. Federated November, 1906. Time of meeting, Friday, 27th November, and every fortnight following, at 7.30 p.m. President, George Gibson, Torbanehill, Gatehouse, by Bathgate ; Vice-president, Frank M'Gregor, Almond View, Whitburn, N.B. ; *Secretary*, Allan Johnston, Lea Street, Whitburn, N.B. ; Treasurer, John Johnston ; Bard, Wm. M'Kenzie. Committee—John Greig, Robert Gillon, Hugh Cumberford, James Wallace, William Gray, and James Brown. Special features of the Club—To promote among the members the knowledge of Scottish literature, history, and music, and especially the life and works of Burns.

No. 161—CHARLESTON Burns Club, Paisley. Instituted 1905. Federated 1906. Place and time of meeting, 39 Stock Street, at 8.30 p.m. *Secretary*, Robt. Fleming, 68 Neilston Road, Paisley.

No. 162—PLYMOUTH and District Caledonian Society. Instituted 8th February, 1898. Federated 8th March, 1907. Place and date of meeting, Corn Exchange, as arranged. President, James Thain, "Bon Accord," 11 Craven Avenue ; Vice-president, Wm. Johnston, 10 Seaton Avenue, Mutlay ; *Secretary*, P. Robertson, 6 Norman Avenue, Devonport. Committee—P. W. Allan, Wm. Scott, R.N., J. Stewart Hamilton, J. R. Brooks, J. Masson, and A. Wray.

No 163—GATESHEAD and District Burns Club. Instituted 1887. Federated 1907. Place and date of meeting, Royal Hotel, first Thursday of month. President, A. Bennett, 40 Rothbury Terrace, Heaton, Newcastle ; Vice-president, James Roxburgh, 219 Wilberforce Terrace, Gateshead ; *Secretary*, D. Bain, 13 Denmark Street, Gateshead. Committee—T. Thompson, T. Hetherington, D. Morrison, and G. Porter. Special features of the Club—To associate Scotsmen and admirers of Burns, &c.

No. 164—KINNING PARK Burns Club Instituted 1881. Federated 14th April, 1907. Place and time of meeting, Masonic Hall, Rutland Crescent, 8 p.m. President, William Dickie, 8 Walmer Terrace, Paisley Road, West ; Vice-president, Duncan M'Callum, 1 Stanley Street, Kinning Park ; *Secretary*, Thomas Deans, 10 Lambhill Street, Plantation. Committee — Thomas Taylor, Ex-Bailie Neilson, Edward Morris, James Mason, John M'Lachlan, John Sturdy, James Ballantyne, and George Kydd. Special features of the Club—Competition amongst school children for singing and reciting works of Scottish poets ; lectures during the year on Scottish literature ; holding of Burns's natal day ; and social intercourse amongst members.

No. 165—WALLSEND Burns Club. Federated 18th April, 1907. Place and date of meeting, Station Hotel, third Wednesday in each month. President, J. M'Donald, 10 Laburnum Avenue ; Vice-president, Jno. Clearey, 29 Hunter Street ; *Secretary*, Robert Johnson, Curzon Road ; Treasurer, C. Scott, 98 Laburnum Avenue.

Special features of the Club—To associate Scotchmen and admirers of Burns; to cultivate literary pursuits; to preserve an interest in Scottish manners, customs, and affairs.

No. 166—CLEVELAND Scottish Association. Instituted January, 1907. Federated June, 1907. Place and date of meeting, Wellington Hotel, Albert Road, monthly. President, Dr Dickie, Ryedale Terrace, Middlesbro; Vice-presidents, Dr Steel, Dr Howat, J. M'Lellan, Dr Brownlie; *Secretary*, A. M'Callum, 6 Royal Exchange, Middlesbro; Hon. Treasurer, John Wilson, Granville Road, Middlesbro.

No. 167—BIRMINGHAM Burns Club. Instituted 13th January, 1906. Federated 13th November, 1907. Place and time of meeting, Imperial Hotel, at 8 p.m. President, Matthew Paton, 37 Congreve Street, Birmingham; Vice-president, Andrew Barclay, 22 Park Road, Moseley, Birmingham; *Secretary*, Wm. Anderson, 3 Wrottesley Street, Birmingham; Treasurer, Alex. Blair, 26 Willows Road, Cannon Hill. Special features of Club—To cherish the name of Robert Burns, Scotland's National Poet, and to foster a love for his writings, and generally encourage a taste for Scotch songs and literature; to promote friendly and social intercourse amongst Scotsmen resident in Birmingham and district; to celebrate the anniversary of the Poet's birthday by a social festival, and to renew our expressions of admiration for our great National Poet at other times and dates made famous, in Scottish history, through his writings.

No. 168—RICCARTON Burns Club. Instituted 7th February, 1877. Federated 14th January, 1908. Place and date of meeting, Commercial Inn, Wednesday and Saturday. President, Adam Mackay, Wallace Chambers, John Finnie Street, Kilmarnock; Vice-president, ex-Bailie M'Graw, Wallace Hill, Riccarton; *Secretary*, James P. Moir, 45 Campbell Street, Riccarton. Committee—Bailie Burnett, D. K. Porter, R. Wyllie, J. Williamson, and George Cunningham ("Pate M'Phun.") Special features of the Club—Social intercourse; to spread and become familiar with the Poet's works.

No. 169—GLASGOW AND DISTRICT Burns Clubs' Association. Instituted 1907. Federated 1908. Place of meeting, National Burns Club, 93 Douglas Street, Glasgow. President, Rev. James Forrest, M.A., 8 Holland Place, Glasgow; Vice-presidents, Jas. Ballantyne, 21 Rose Street, Garnethill, and Alex. Pollock, 52 West Nile Street, Glasgow; *Secretary*, J. Jeffrey Hunter, writer, 109 Bath Street, Glasgow. Committee—A. C. Alston, Archibald Clark, Donald M'Farlane, Robert Smith, James Tudhope, Provost Wilson (Pollokshaws), Alex. M'Kenzie, P. M. A. Carrick, J. Blair Smith. Special features of the Club—To further the interest of the Burns cult by promoting closer union between the clubs in the district, and bringing the members of these clubs into more harmonious relationship.

No. 170—LARKHALL Thistle Burns Club. Instituted November, 1906. Federated 18th April, 1908. Place and date of meeting, Victoria Bar, every Saturday, at 7.30. Hon. President, William Martin, Victoria Bar; Hon. Vice-president, Robert M'Dole; President, Alex. Grieve, Drygate Street, Larkhall; *Secretary*, Arch. W. Laird, 4 Marshall Street, Larkhall; Treasurer, William Aber-

crombie. Machar, Larkhall. Special features of the Club—To encourage the members to take a greater interest in the Works of Burns.

No. 171—CHATTANOOGA Burns Society, Tenn., U S.A. Instituted 25th January, 1908. Federated 2nd June, 1908. President, James Forbes; Vice-president, James Blackwood; *Secretary*, Robert B. Cooke, 1005 James' Buildings, Chattanooga, Tenn., U.S.A.

No. 172—OREGON Burns Club, Portland, Oregon, U.S.A. Instituted January 25th, 1908. Federated 12th November, 1908. President, Capt. James D. Murray; Vice-president, Judge Geo. Cameron, District Attorney's Office, Chamber of Commerce, Portland, Oregon; *Secretary*, A. Gavin, 1201 Williams Avenue, Piedmont, Portland, Oregon, U.S.A.

No. 173—IRVINE Burns Club. Instituted 1826. Federated 18th Nov. 1908. President, Capt. Alex. Young, Braidmead, Irvine; Treasurer, Robert F. Longmuir, Roseville, Irvine; *Secretary*, Robert Boyd, B.L., solicitor, Irvine.

No. 174—ARDROSSAN CASTLE Burns Club. Federated 14th December, 1908. Hon. President, Provost Chrystie; President, Bailie Crawford; Vice-presidents, Rev. J. K. Cameron and William Tannock; *Secretary*, William Adam, Craigview, High Street, Ardrossan; Treasurer, James Tyre. Committee—Messrs Bryce, Currie, Muirhead, Barclay, Wilson, Galloway, Gardner, Gibson, Councillor Flinn.

No. 175—MEIKLE EARNOCK Original Burns Club. Instituted 16th March, 1906. Federated 21st December, 1908. President, R. H. Sneddon, Hazel Bank, Strathaven Road, Hamilton; Vice-president, Wm. Kerr, 109 Eddlewood Buildings, Hamilton, *Secretary*, Wm. Lawson, 8 School Street, Low Waters, Hamilton.

J. Maxwell & Son, Printers and Lithos., Dumfries.

346564

P
LE
B

Author

Title Burns chronicle and club directory, 16-18,

University of Toronto
Library

DO NOT
REMOVE
THE
CARD
FROM
THIS
POCKET

Acme Library Card Pocket
LOWE-MARTIN CO. LIMITED

J. MIDDLETON,
DER, ADELPHI.